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## REVIEWS

*The Life and Letters of Barthold George Niebuhr, and Selections from his Minor Writings.* Edited and translated by Susanna Winkworth. Vol. III. Supplementary. Chapman & Hall.

IN our review [*ante*, p. 39] of the former volumes of this important work,—for the historian of Rome has a fame and a following in this country greater even than in his own,—we remarked on what appeared to us to be two serious omissions therein. In the first place, we did not find, either in Miss Winkworth's connecting notes or in the essays of the historian's old friends and pupils any sufficient account of Niebuhr as a citizen—of his opinions as a practical statesman—of his impressions as a philosophical observer of the times. In the second place, we missed from his 'Correspondence' many very remarkable letters on historical and antiquarian subjects. The translator would now appear to have perceived with us that in these respects her work was incomplete,—and the friends of the historian seem also to have felt that something more was due from them. There was evidently much to tell that had not been told. There were enigmas to be solved—doubts to be removed—controversies to be set at rest. Time, which sanctifies the dead, removes the living; and in the twenty-two years which have elapsed since the great Professor passed into another world, the stage has been nearly cleared of those who were his coadjutors and contemporaries during the most active part of his political career. Niebuhr's fame as regards both politics and literature is now historical. His place in the intellectual hierarchy of Europe is fixed, and it remains only that we should have the figure so placed in its niche that its form and character may be seen in their true proportions. Hence the necessity for this new and Supplementary volume.

The volume consists, properly speaking, of four parts:—the Chevalier Bunsen's account of his master's political views,—a series of extracts from Niebuhr's letters from Holland in 1808-9, addressed to his father, Dora Hensler, and others,—a collection of political fragments,—and miscellaneous selections, chiefly historical and antiquarian, from the body of his minor writings. The first part is entirely new,—and in some respects it is the most interesting portion of the volume. M. Bunsen addresses himself to two points:—"Niebuhr's views on modern constitutional government, about which there exists a marked difference of opinion both in England and in Germany,"—and "His going out of office in 1810, which latter has been made the object of an unwarranted attack in his own country." This second point has for us and for our readers but a minor and a biographical interest,—the first has an importance far more general.

Already, as we have said, Niebuhr has assumed a great position in this country as a teacher. His works are in the hands of nearly all our young scholars and politicians. His 'Roman History' is a sort of extra text-book at our Universities,—nearly five thousand copies of it having been there sold. Indeed, what Burke was to the men who in his day required a seer to interpret for them the enigma of the first revolutionary outbreak, Niebuhr is becoming now as the historical unriddler of an era of revolutions. Yet, it is not always easy to get at his real views of passing events. In his works, it is impossible to miss the broad and liberal view—the sympathy with everything noble and popular in ancient times;—but, with regard to

the great page of history daily unrolling before his eye, his ideas were not often expressed in writing even to his closest friends,—and for a reason very sufficiently explained by M. Bunsen. "Niebuhr," he says, "knew as well as I, that every one of our letters, sent through the post, was opened and read at least twice before it reached its destination." The Prussian Ambassador adds to this avowal:—"Indignation at the shameless tyranny of the secret police, and the fear of involving one's self or one's friends in persecution, bound the tongue and paralyzed the hand of the correspondent on anything connected with public institutions; for even where confidential channels of communication offered themselves, letters were always dangerous to the bearer." Thus, the views of Niebuhr on the course of modern affairs became, so to say, the exclusive possession of certain of his intimate and confidential friends, to whom they were detailed in private conversation, and by whom they were treasured up as a sacred legacy to be delivered to the world in due season. M. Bunsen had rare opportunities of this kind; as he lived with Niebuhr familiarly in Rome during the years 1817-1823, and enjoyed his affectionate correspondence from that period until his death. This correspondence, with all necessary comment and elucidation, he gives us to understand will not be wanting when the time shall come to speak historically of the years from 1806 to 1830. Meanwhile, out of the abundant stores of his knowledge, and with the discretions befitting his public position, he offers a brief, but on the whole a very satisfactory, explanation of Niebuhr's political philosophy.

To avoid the necessity for repeating ourselves, we may as well here refer to our own reading, in our article above referred to, of this part of Niebuhr's character:—for that reading is sustained in all essential points by M. Bunsen's present revelations. Niebuhr's view of modern society is compressed by his friend and pupil as follows.—

"Europe is threatened with great dangers, and with the loss of all that is noble and great, by two opposite but conspiring elements of destruction,—despotism and revolution; both in their most mischievous forms. As to the former, the modern state despotism, established by Louis XIV., promoted by the French Revolution, and carried out to unenviable perfection by Napoleon, and those Governments which have adopted his system, after having combated its author,—is more enslaving and deadening than any preceding form; for it is civilised and systematised, and has, besides the military force, two engines, unknown to the ancient world, or to the Middle Ages. These are, first, the modern state-government, founded upon a police-force which has degenerated into a gigantic spy-system; and, secondly, a thoroughly organised and centralised bureaucracy, which allows of no independent will and action in the country. So, likewise, modern revolution is more destructive of political life and the elements of liberty than similar movements in former ages; for it is a merely negative, and, at the same time, systematic reaction, against the *ancien régime*, of which it made the despotic part universal by carrying out uniformity, and by autocratic interference in the name of the State; whereas it gives no equivalent for the real, although imperfect, liberties which the old system contained, in the form of privileges; and in condemning such privileges, under the sanction of democracy, it destroyed the basis of liberty under the pretext of sovereignty. The *ancien régime* had, indeed, made a similar attempt in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The philosophical Catherine had made Russian serfdom universal and uniform; so, too, Peter Leopold, the liberal Grand Duke of Tuscany, had swept away, for the love of state-uniformity, the last remnants of the municipal independence of Tuscany; and his imperial brother, Joseph, had attempted to confiscate the Hungarian

privileges in behoof of absolute kingship. Yet more utterly had the French Revolution destroyed the last living germs of continental liberties, in the name of liberty. All freedom which had escaped the irregular oppression of the barons in the Middle Ages, was now destroyed, together with the privileges of the latter, by a stroke of the pen. Whatever had survived the reaction of the not yet quite adult despotism of the Roman Catholic dynasties after the Reformation, and the philosophical liberalism of the autocrats of the eighteenth century,—among whom Frederic the Great alone makes an exception,—was swept away theoretically by that Revolution. This universal despotism was to be recommended as freedom by the two beautiful words—Equality and Liberty; that is to say, the abolition of the privileges of the nobility, and the cessation of religious persecution and intolerance. The first was in reality a bloody confiscation for the benefit of the rulers; and the second a cheap homage to the claims of reason, offered by an age of religious indifference. The immense triumphs of the Revolution in Roman Catholic countries, were owing to the despair created by an effete aristocracy and a hypocritical priesthood. In the rest of Europe its success was commensurate with the defects of the old system and the inward power of reform, but it never showed the malignity of the disease, exclusively, proper to the countries where it was indigenous,—France and the South of Europe."

Such a reading of the effect of revolutions is worthy of deep consideration in these times, when Revolution has become a flag, a science, and a watchword. An illustrious exile has lately preached amongst our working people the doctrine of local self-government being the true basis of all liberty:—this was also Niebuhr's idea. "The foundation of political liberty," he says, "is, municipal self-government." Without that basis, the legislative power of Parliament itself was, in his eyes a *mauvaise plaisanterie* or a mischievous experiment. This doctrine he illustrated and enforced with large erudition. The French Revolution—the Empire—swept away this corner-stone of public freedom,—and he felt assured that the Empire would pass away, as the Republic had passed away. When the Restoration came, he indulged for long years in the vain hope of seeing some of the old local liberties restored to France; but he soon had occasion to suspect how little was to be looked for from the Bourbons of that generation.—

"I well remember that he was still more shocked by the avowals of the Duc de Blacas. That statesman was sent to Rome as ambassador, having also certain general instructions to watch the movements of the Napoleonides in Italy. He courted Niebuhr's friendship, and was happy to find in him a political adversary of Decazes. But when Niebuhr expressed to him his astonishment and regret, that the authors of the Charter of 1814 (the Duc de Blacas and the Abbé Montesquieu,) had omitted in its articles the fundamental principles of electoral law, which were the key to the whole constitutional system, the duke, hard pressed by the inquisitive colleague, whom no evasive answer would satisfy, said roundly: 'pour vous dire la vérité, nous n'avions pas cru qu'on nous prendrait au sérieux.' This answer first gave Niebuhr an insight into the unfathomable depth of the ignorance and perfidy of the Bourbons and their friends, and shook his faith in the plans and the ultimate fate of the Restoration."

Yet, he scarcely expected to find the restored family so soon re-expelled from France. In illustration of this, M. Bunsen gives us a curious bit of political gossip.—

"When, in the summer of 1829, Pius VIII. had been elected successor to Leo XII., the cardinal's hat was given to Latil, formerly as Abbé Latil, the Confessor of the Comte D'Artois and of his mistress, —later as Archbishop of Rheims, the prelate who anointed Charles X. Diplomatic dinners preceded and followed this great ceremony. At a dinner given on this occasion at the Russian embassy, the Cardinal, after a joyous repast, entered into a private conversation with Prince Gagarin, the Russian Minister, with the import of which the Prince, who was

'homme d'esprit,' and very fond of fun, made me acquainted on the spot. The Cardinal had said to him: 'Prince, we,'—meaning the King and the Cardinal, or the Cardinal and the King,—'have come to the conviction, that two things are incompatible,—the Catholic Church and the constitutional Charter. We see that we must choose between them, and our opinion has been made. You will believe me, Prince, it has not been difficult. You will soon hear more of it. We must modify the Charter, in order to make it compatible with the precepts of the Catholic Church; and we are decided to do so soon.' We both agreed that this was a most important revelation, and that vanity and wine had made Latil say more than a confessor and a cardinal ought to have divulged. The manner in which he had said those words was such, that it was impossible not to believe that he spoke the secret of the Cabinet. And indeed, when, a few days afterwards, he received, under a princely dais, the red hat from the Pope's Ablegate, instead of answering his congratulations, as other cardinals used to do, with a few words of thanks, he made a set speech, evidently learnt by heart, and delivered with great emphasis, in which he said:—'Tell the Holy Father, that I am fully aware of the duties and responsibilities, which this highest honour imposes upon me in the situation which I hold, my conduct will show my sense of duty, and my gratitude.' Of course, Prince Gasparin and I did not fail to convey this important intelligence to our respective Courts. Now I was particularly anxious to make Niebuhr aware of the state of things, thus revealed to me. But, as it was of a very confidential nature, and not exactly fit for my customers at some post-offices on the way, I confined myself, as far as I can recollect, in the next letter to Niebuhr, to general expressions; but, in order to leave him no doubt as to my own conviction respecting the fast approaching crisis in France, I dated a series of letters and notes to Niebuhr, 'Capitol, 1687.' Niebuhr overlooked this hint for a time, but in his last letter (of which I give a remarkable extract), he adverted to it in something like these words: 'I perceive what you mean by 1687, but I cannot yet believe that the crisis is so near at hand in France; to which I remember to have replied, in something like the following phrase: 'If I predict a 1688 for France, I do not forget, that it will not be a real 1688, for that is impossible without a preceding 1517' (a religious and moral Reformation of the people).

So far as regards the general philosophy of politics, Niebuhr's views are thus conveniently summed up by his friend.—'There can be no perfect political liberty without an honest, real, constitutional government, but there can be no hope of its taking root except in a soil prepared by corporate, county, and provincial self-government.'

Leaving M. Bunsen for Niebuhr himself,—we will now throw together a few extracts from the letters and papers here collected. The following is a pleasant passage on a party at Mr. Hope's in Amsterdam.—

'At this party, one thing afforded me much amusement. Here it is never imagined that any human being, having claims to the title, does not gamble; it is therefore a rule in Amsterdam, that the number of persons at an evening party should, subtracting seven, be divisible by four into the intended number of parties for cards. These seven are destined for *bouillotte*. Now, Amelia remained at home, and I did not play. This deranged the whole plan of those who had grouped together for this interesting amusement, and they were forced to play with only five. What a malicious pleasure I enjoyed in watching the vexation of one and another at this spoiling of the only interesting hour of their day; above all, the excessively supercilious contempt with which a *petite maitresse* regarded me for my awkwardness and want of education! I enjoyed it so much that it made the evening quite endurable. In the same way I enjoyed the really indescribable littleness of a young Parisian dandy, whom that lady admired as much as she despised me; and blessed the conscription which is driving such *canaille* by thousands against the balls and the bayonets. To such creatures a prince might say with justice,—not

as was once horribly said to the noble Guards, 'Do you want to live for ever, you dogs?' but,—'Why do you want to live, you dogs, when death is the only respectable moment of your lives?' A Huron, (I am not ashamed to confess that I think of this novel of Voltaire's with pleasure; moreover, there are many more flowers than nettles and poisonous plants in it, still, the ignorant and incautious who are afraid of the latter had better leave it alone); that Huron would have said of Amsterdam, 'They invite a stranger, under pain of considering themselves highly insulted, to spend his evening after nine o'clock in utter idleness, and to undergo a headache, if night-watching does not agree with him. They also impose it on him, as a duty, either to lose his money or his temper at play. This is one of the refinements by which intellectual culture has been brought to its well-known high perfection in Europe.'

These Dutch letters breathe from first to last a noble sympathy with freedom and the free, a love for popular activities, and a never-pausing scorn for effete aristocracies. With some of Niebuhr's historical verdicts Englishmen will scarcely agree:—as, for instance, where he calls De Ruyter 'incontestably the greatest seaman that ever lived.' The man who beat not only De Ruyter, but also Van Tromp and De Witt, in every engagement, might reasonably contest the palm of honour with the great Hollander, even were there no other claimants in the field. There was in Niebuhr's mind at this time a little soreness towards England and the English:—but he was too just and noble to do us a wrong consciously. His testimony on the following point will to all future time outweigh a thousand idle tales on the same subject.—

'We had heard so much of the terrible enormities practised by the English in North Holland, that, knowing how many similar scenes had taken place in other wars, I made inquiries into the details, apprehensive that I should be told of some new fearful horrors. I was very much astonished to find that not an instance of plunder, to say nothing of murder or insult to women, is known here, though the army was long enough in this neighbourhood; on the contrary, their discipline and exact payment for all trifles as well as for large purchases, were highly extolled. Any one who knows the Duke of York will ascribe the merit of these good works to old General Abercrombie.'

Of the floods which occurred in the winter of 1808-9 in Holland Niebuhr has left a graphic account.—

'The devastation caused by the floods is frightful. From the frontiers of Cleves, on the one side, to the mouth of the Yssel in the Zuyder Zee, on the other, the whole of that fruitful country, the most beautiful alluvial soil lying between the Leek, the Rhine, and the Maas, and along the southern bank of the last stream as far as Dordrecht, has been laid under water,—a district containing at least 60,000 inhabitants, nearly the whole of whom have lost their *all*. It is very doubtful whether one of the finest portions of it, the Alblasserwaard, through which we drove from Dordrecht to Gouda, can ever be recovered, and it is believed that the land can only be saved by means of a herculean undertaking, the cost of which exceeds calculation; twenty million florins would be far too low an estimate.—I should think fifty millions would be nearer the mark. The King had proposed this plan long ago, but the nobles of Guelders, through whose estates the new beds for the rivers must have been cut, dissuaded him from it: on which account he accuses them, though not by name, in a very remarkable bulletin, of being the authors of the calamity. This has been said in a moment of passion; but they may be justly reproached with having taken advantage of the privilege of inspecting their own dykes, to neglect their duty. The King has behaved admirably; he went in a boat through the midst of the flood, in which ice-floes of several acres in extent were driving about, to a village, which no reward could induce the terrified boatmen to attempt to reach, in order to save the inhabitants who had preferred remaining behind on the roof to freeze and starve, rather than forsake their cattle so long as any of them remained alive. His example shamed and

stimulated others. Both on this and on another occasion he put his life in the greatest danger. The town of Gorcum, in which a whirlpool had already begun to form, has been saved by his presence. He, who in his palace never feels well but in a temperature which is almost suffocating to a healthy man, remained on the dyke sixteen hours on foot, on horseback, or in a carriage in the fearful hurricane of the 31st; and that he has borne this is a strong testimony to the emotion he felt.'

Remembering that the chief interest of Niebuhr's writings is a purely intellectual one,—we will pass from these historical notes and social gossipings, to give our readers the benefit of a fine passage in which this eminent scholar has drawn his ideal of the scholar's character,—and assigned to learning its relative place in the intellectual system.—

'The loftiest ideal of a scholar, which, indeed, neither Aristotle nor Leibnitz nor any human mind, with the most perfect aids, has ever approached or will ever be able to approach even at a remote distance, were that he should possess and govern, as the kingdom of his inner sense, all that can be or ever has been perceived of the universe by our limited senses. Of that Omniscience which the poet sings in his praise of knowledge:—

ὅς τ' ἔσθ' ἀπὸ τοῦ παντός, τὰ τ' ἰσχυροῦς, πρὸς τ' ἰσχυρὰ  
—he would possess the present and the past. Such a knowledge were divine, not human: but we may be allowed to call that approximation to it also divine (if any other human quality may bear this title than those highest characteristics on which it has been conferred by the universal consent of all the nobler races of mankind), circumscribed as are its impassable boundaries, which, to the greatest extent that our limitations permit, comprises the experiences and perceptions of multitudes of our race who have lived thousands of years ago; at least, when this learning is not an oppressive burden, but the armour and weapons that bring victory and dominion to the mighty arm that wields them. And even though, mostly through our own fault, the portion we have each of us acquired of that wealth is so much smaller than that which we had the means of acquiring, yet we will nevertheless strive to earn the title of a scholar, and wear it with pride, when we have merited it, as a noble crown, the third in rank by which mental pre-eminence can be distinguished. For we must concede a high rank to the men who have cultivated to perfection those intellectual faculties which more rarely grow up and yield fruit than the universal love of knowledge. Higher are the artist's creative and constructive faculties, and the power of action; and more sublime is the reflective insight possessed by the original thinker, who is not contented with the simple contemplation of the facts presented to us by history, but penetrates through the seeming reality to the foundation of truth. Yet learning does not occupy an isolated position; as, indeed, nothing does in the real world; it is often wedded to art and the companion of science,—aids her, and is favoured by her in return.'

We close this record of a great and good man's life thoroughly convinced that, much as the world knows already of Barthold Niebuhr, it does not know enough and never can know too much. Almost every line written by this calm and sagacious man is pregnant with instruction. His moral nature is one of the finest on record:—his intellect has spoken for itself. In his modesty of manner—in his simplicity of taste—in his domestic virtues—not less than in his immense industry, his steadiness of purpose, and his uncompromising literary honesty, he is the very model for a young scholar to adopt and imitate.

Of the abilities of Miss Winkworth as a translator we have spoken on a former occasion,—and we have now no reason to qualify the good opinion which we then pronounced. Her work, however, is still unfinished. There is yet a good deal of Niebuhr untranslated,—and the three volumes already published by her admit of a more felicitous arrangement as to their several contents.



*Stamboul, and the Sea of Gems.* By the Author of 'The Bridal and the Bridle.' Bentley.

SINCE book-making has become fashionable and been found profitable, the thrift displayed in the process would merit a chapter to itself were the history of modern literary ingenuity to be written. One good story having been found able to sell three volumes, a second is carefully laid by for a "second series."—There was no earthly reason why this 'Stamboul, and the Sea of Gems' should not have been incorporated into 'The Bridal and the Bridle,' to the enrichment of that pleasant but slight book; seeing that it is merely a continuation of the honey-moon tour journalized in the former volume,—and that though, like its predecessor, it is cheerfully and brightly written, it is somewhat spun out and flimsy. It contains matter for a pleasant shilling pamphlet:—but certainly nothing more substantial or precious.

The mosques, harbours, burying-grounds, palaces, and bazaars of Constantinople—the comforts of Myaseri's Hotel—and the discomforts of riding in an *aruba*, or Turkish carriage—are very nearly as familiar to the English as the pump-room at Bath or the jaunting-cars of Dublin:—so that, it were lost time and space just now for us to dwell again on wonders so well known.—The long scene which shows how slowly and imaginatively Eastern shopping is carried on, is amusing, though not very new:—this, therefore, we will leave, in favour of a Turkish police story which, after its kind, is "a gem." Our author struck up a friendship with "Dindar Agha, one of the secret agents of the Vizier, and a perfect miniature Fouché or Vidocq." This worthy had, like other redoubtable thief-takers, been in his time a notorious offender:—but, while working out his sentence in the Turkish arsenal at Cyprus, he had been brought to see the error of his ways and the error of his creed,—and having converted himself into a Mussulman, was let out of prison, in order to turn the fruits of his experience to profit on the side of law, justice, and good morals.—

"Some eight years ago," continues our author, "the diamonds of the Austrian ambassadors were stolen from her toilette table by some peculiarly cunning and daring thieves. A large reward was offered for the recovery of the gems, and Dindar was deputed by his superiors to the office of a detective in this particular case. In the course of a week, Dindar, whose scent no Border blood-hound ever surpassed, got a clue to the originators of the robbery. The plunderers were numerous, and as the jewels could not be sold without great risk of detection in Constantinople, they had resolved to carry them for sale to Teheran, where they had no doubt of finding a ready market for their valuable booty among the nobles of Persia. Dindar Agha found out their intended route, and on the arrival of the rascals at Kars, a respectable merchant from Koordistan, in a high cap of black sheepskin and a huge robe, entered their caravanserai, and very dexterously managed to extract from them, in the course of conversation, an avowal that they had diamonds for sale. For these the pretended merchant, who was no other than our old friend Dindar, offered to give a handsome price, and thus save them the trouble of continuing their journey to the capital of the Shah. After a great deal of bargaining, the robbers agreed to sell the jewels for ninety thousand piastres, or nine hundred pounds sterling, and with apparent reluctance and hesitation the merchant produced a heavy leathern bag and counted out the sum in silver beschliks. The money was some fictitious coin manufactured by a gang of forgers in England or Russia, and which had been seized by the Vizier and confiscated. The wily Dindar had provided himself with a large supply of this counterfeit money, and was thus enabled to purchase the gems of the Baroness von — for a few handfuls of clipped pewter. The robbers left Kars joyfully on

their homeward route. At their first halting-place, however, some of the more wary began to suspect the accommodating merchant who had so opportunely interposed to save them the weary ride to Teheran. Perhaps Dindar, aware of the worthlessness of his circulating medium, was too eager and too compliant in bargaining to suit his feigned character of a greedy trader. At any rate, the thieves examined the contents of the money-bag, and discovered the beschliks to be spurious imitations, even greasier and more adulterated than the Sultan's shabby coin. \* \* The gang returned at full speed to Kars, found the treacherous merchant quietly smoking his chibouque in the caravanserai, furiously accused, deprived him of the brilliants which he had unjustly obtained, beat him severely with bridles, belts, and pipe-sticks, with the full and unqualified approbation of the bystanders, and finally only abstained from dragging him before the Cadi from the fear that the *signalment* of some of the party might be unpleasantly familiar to the myrmidons of the magistrates of Kars. Having thus regained possession of the brilliants, they hastened on towards Teheran. \* \* A fresh plan was soon formed, and Dindar Agha mounted his horse, without heeding either his aching bones or the jeers and curses of the other inmates of the khan, who regarded him as not only a dishonest trader, but, far worse, as a detected impostor. He rode as fast as possible on the road towards Persia, until his horse, knocked up by two hard days' travelling over stony ground, became too lame to proceed. Dindar, who was as good a judge of the equine race and as adroit a haggler as the canniest native of Yorkshire, purchased a strong shaggy yaboo from a peasant for a trifle, and pursued his journey. Pushing on unremittently, and seeking a little frequented pass in the mountain-range, Dindar had the gratification of arriving before the robbers among the wide-spreading plains of Persia. \* \* It was some time before he encountered a band fit for his purpose; the Koords were too savage and treacherous, the Uzbecks too fierce and morose, the Eelyauts too pastoral and gentle to be the allies of this Candiot Ulysses. At last he arrived among the black tents and picketed camels of a tribe of Turcomans, a people brave, hospitable, and faithful, but with exceedingly medieval ideas of the rights of property. To the chieftain of this horde, Sultaun Moorad, Dindar told a plaintive tale of wrong and violence. He had been cheated out of the price of a set of superb jewels which he had sold to some Kafirs of merchants at Kars. The unbelieving dogs, rank Sheahs and heretics, as well as swindlers (Sultaun Moorad was a Sounie), had taken away the money they had paid him for the diamonds by force, after he had given his receipt, and when he complained at the footstool of justice, the Cadi of Kars, that son of a burnt father and grandsire of asses, had taken a bribe from the thieves to apply the bamboo to Dindar, and to drive him with blows from the court, him, an old man and a Mussulman! Whereupon there had remained no other resource to the ill-treated and disconsolate Dindar than to prostrate himself in the dust of the Turcoman encampment, to grasp the spear of the chief, to kiss the hem of his robe, and to adjure the brave and victorious Sultaun Moorad, before whom the universe trembled, to put himself at the head of his lion-eating warriors, and surprise the robbers on their road to Teheran. Dindar added that besides the diamonds the rascals had above ninety thousand piastres in silver in their possession, and that he should be content with the restitution of the gems, leaving the money to his valiant ally, whom he finally implored, by the beard of his father and the salt of his hospitality, to protect and avenge him. The Turcoman chief sympathized with the wronged and injured Dindar, and his eyes sparkled at the mention of the piastres. He agreed to punish Dindar's enemies and to restore him the gems, and forthwith plucked his spear from the ground where it was planted before his tent, mounted his steed, which had borne him on many a day of battle and chappow, and called around him his young men, who mustered gladly at the first announcement of a foray. To the astonishment and dismay of the Stamboul thieves, as they emerged from the intricate passes of the mountains into the open plains, they were charged by an overwhelming force of Turcoman cavalry. Half of their number fell beneath the scimitars and

lances of Sultaun Moorad and his followers, and the survivors, having been stripped and plundered, were detained in a state of slavery among the wild horde. As for Dindar, the chief kept his word most faithfully. The diamonds were given up to the wily Cretan, who returned forthwith to Constantinople, restored the jewels to the Baroness von —, and duly claimed and received the reward. The Turcoman chief was content with the counterfeit coin."

A better adventure of the *picaresque* kind than the above is not frequently to be met with. Since the general character of the book has been indicated,—we may, without further extract or observation, hand it over to all Christmas readers as furnishing light matter for half-an-hour's entertainment.

*Italian Irrigation: a Report on the Agricultural Canals of Piedmont and Lombardy.* By Capt. R. Baird Smith, Bengal Engineers. Printed by Order of the East India Company. Allen & Co. 2 vols.

THE topics to which these two volumes are devoted cannot be said to be popular,—but they are of great importance. Irrigation in arid regions is the main source at once of health to the inhabitants and of revenue to the government. Subsistence depends on water-courses and reservoirs; and the greatest benefactors of the commonwealth are those who devise or execute sagacious schemes for collecting and diffusing further supplies of water from new sources and in new forms.

Capt. Baird Smith is an intelligent officer in that very respectable and useful corps, the Bengal Engineers. He has been employed for several years with credit to himself and advantage to the state in the great works of irrigation long since commenced in Upper India; and every portion of the present volumes bears testimony to the zeal with which he has devoted himself to the promotion of the Ganges and Jumna Canal. Finding himself in England,—we presume on furlough,—Capt. Smith was directed to proceed to Italy on a professional mission,—that mission being, the examination, with every aid which the East India Company could command, of the entire system of irrigation existing in Lombardy and in Piedmont. It appears also to have been a part of the instructions given to Capt. Smith, that he should embody the result of his observations and researches in a full and systematic treatise on the whole question of Italian drainage for agricultural purposes.

Capt. Smith left England for Italy in Dec. 1850,—and returned to London in May, 1851. He may be said, therefore, to have spent about four months in collecting personally the materials for the present work; and, furnished as he was with introductions of the best kind and in abundance, he appears to have possessed every reasonable facility for ascertaining the real state of the facts.

Capt. Smith has, on the whole, discharged his duty as a reporter with efficiency and credit. We could have wished that in some of the chapters there had been greater scientific precision and solidity; and we are not sure that quite so much space was required to convey the observations and results contained in these volumes. We accept them, however, as perhaps the best historical and technical treatise in the language on a subject of no trifling interest. Accompanying the volumes there is a collection of maps, plans and drawings, of great value as illustrations of the text, and as placing before the student, in the readiest form, the results attained by Italian ingenuity and experience in canal and drainage engineering.

Into the technical parts of the subject we cannot attempt to enter; but we may select one

passage calculated to convey a general idea of the results and the origin of that vast system of artificial drainage for which Lombardy and Piedmont have been for centuries famous.

The following is Capt. Smith's general summary of the irrigation system of Lombardy.

"Viewing the plain as a whole it is irrigated to the extent of about one-sixth of its total and about one-fifth of its productive area. There is a progressive decrease in the ratio of irrigation to area, as we proceed from west to east. Between the Ticino and the Adda irrigation is applied over nearly nine-tenths of the surface; between the Adda and the Oglio, over about two-tenths; and between the Oglio and Adige, over not more than one-seventh or one-eighth. In the Milanese, Lombard authorities estimate the extent of rice cultivation at about one-half the total irrigated area, the remaining half being occupied either by permanent or rotation meadows, Indian corn and flax. Between the Adda and the Oglio rice is comparatively rare; but in the low lands of Mantua and Verona it occupies two-thirds of the productive area. The great government canals have a total length of 133 miles; but dependent upon these main lines there are 353 branches, some of which are of very large dimensions; and if an average length of ten miles be assumed for each, we have a net-work of distribution channels of the first class equal to 3,530 miles in aggregate length. To approximate even to the length of the minute arteries of the system is quite impossible. When the great map of the country is examined, it seems as though scarce an acre of the entire surface of the Milanese were without several intersecting channels. To the eastward of the Adda, the length of the canals is less; but still it does not fall under from 700 to 800 miles. It is not, I think, therefore, an exaggeration to say that the entire length of canals and irrigation in Lombardy, including the great lines and their first-class branches, exceeds 4,600 miles. Though the financial results of this remarkable development of irrigation have been of small direct benefit to the state, or to those individuals who have concerned themselves in canal works as commercial speculations, their indirect benefit, as indicated by the difference of rent between irrigated and unirrigated land, has been most marked. At a very moderate estimate, the increased returns from the land throughout the Milanese alone may be estimated at 270,000*l.* and in the other irrigated provinces at about 290,000*l.* per annum; representing a capital value of fully fourteen millions sterling due to the employment of water in the agriculture of this fertile region. This statement is, however, so to speak, but one side of the account, it shows us what has been realized, but it does not show us what has been spent. The remote epoch at which the great canals, and a very large proportion of the branches, were constructed—the admixture of works for navigation with those required purely for irrigation—and the difficulty of obtaining access to the records of private undertakings, oppose almost insuperable obstacles to the formation of a trustworthy estimate of the amount of capital which has been expended in producing throughout Lombardy that astonishing system which we have been describing. It is not merely the cost of canal works which forms the chief item in the expenditure; in addition to this, vast sums have been expended in adapting the ground for the use of water,—high places have been lowered, low places have been raised,—the entire surface of the country has been plastic, as it were, in the hands of the irrigators—and the amount of capital thus invested in the soil has been very great. Signor Cattaneo estimates the cost of introducing, over an area of 500,000 acres, a system of irrigation on a grand scale like that of the Milanese, with its great trunk-line of canal, its first-class branches, its modification of surface, its immense establishments for farming purposes, and its internal works for the distribution and application of the water, at forty millions sterling, or 80*l.* per acre! From an analysis of the items of this estimate, I think it is in excess of the truth; but making every possible deduction, even to the extent of one-half, it would still appear that, for the irrigation of the million acres which, in round numbers, represents the total irrigated area of Lombardy, there must have been expended a capital of

not less than the sum above stated. This expenditure has been spread over seven hundred years; it has converted a *maremma* into a garden; and though, when presented in the form of a bare money account, its results are not great, yet its real effects are to be traced, and its true history read, on the face of the land, and in the material condition of its two and a half millions of inhabitants."

We have no hesitation in predicting that Capt. Smith's volumes will increase his professional reputation,—and they will certainly exert a highly beneficial influence, in guiding and extending the irrigation enterprises of India;—enterprises which are at once benevolent and lucrative,—increasing the strength and resources of the State by which they are undertaken, and elevating in comfort and intelligence the people amongst whom they are carried on.

*Memoirs, Journals, and Correspondence of Thomas Moore.* Edited by the Right Hon. Lord John Russell.

[Second Notice.]

Mr. Moore was admirably fitted to keep a diary.—His opportunities were great,—his means of acquiring correct information rare among literary men,—his habits of observing quick, and his memory was retentive;—while, by never allowing his diary to get into arrears, he has given to his pages the freshness which always accompanies an observation on the spot. When in London—which he often was,—and without Mrs. Moore, he passed his time, as he used to say, in transacting business in the east and enjoying society in the west. He was continually "on the run"—or rather, on the roll,—for he was once a day, or oftener, in a hackney coach on his way to or from Holland House, having taken Lansdowne House, Lady Donegal's in Davies Street, and perhaps some half dozen more houses, on his way to Kensington. When he was not in the hackney coach, he was gossiping either at Mr. Murray's in Albemarle Street, at Mr. Rogers's in St. James's Place, at Power's in the Strand, at Carpenter's in Bond Street, or at Longman's in Paternoster Row. His lodgings, either in Duke Street or in Bury Street, St. James's, placed him in the centre of fashion, and near to his customary houses of call. No wonder, then, that his diary is entertaining,—full of known names and happy sayings,—seasoned with bits of scandal, and with observations both on books and on men. To this source of information we now return:—for the diary of Moore is, to use the language of the trade, "unquestionably the book of the season."

Precedence may be thought due to a Prince of Wales who lived to be king;—and here is something about "the first Gentleman in Europe."—All our extracts, we may observe, belong to the years 1818 and 1819.—

"The Prince's imitation of Thurlow excellent. I mention I had heard him give it at his own table at Carlton House; and Tom Sheridan told me the story with which he introduced it was made extempore. If Tom S. said true, it showed great quickness of invention. Lord H. told me of the Prince's mimicking Basilio, Mr. Fox's servant saying to him (the Prince)—'I have had de honneur, sare, of being at Windsor. I have see your fader; he looks as well as ever;—the latter words spoken in a side whisper and a rueful face, as if sympathising with what he thought the Prince must feel at the intelligence.' \* \* The prince, at one time, thought of giving red waistcoats and breeches to the navy; at another time he is reported to have said, upon some consultation for a change of their costume, 'D—n them; dress them how you will, you cannot make them look like gentlemen.'"

The observation on dress was, perhaps, suggested by Beau Brummel;—of whom we find the following.—

"Much talk in town about 'Brummel's Memoirs.' Murray told me a day or two ago, that the report was he had offered 5,000*l.* for the 'Memoirs,' but

that the Regent had sent Brummel 6,000*l.* to suppress them! Upon Murray's saying he really had some idea of going to Calais to treat with Brummel, I asked him (Scrope Davies was by) what he would give me for a volume in the style of the 'Fudges,' on his correspondence and interviews with Brummel? 'A thousand guineas,' he said, 'this instant.'"

From Princes we may pass to Prime Ministers and Statesmen. Here are "bits" about Pitt, Fox, Curran, and Horne Tooke.—

"Tierney mentioned two bon-mots of Mr. Pitt: one was his adding to Sir W. Curtis's toast ('A speedy peace and soon'), 'soon, if possible; and the other, his answer to some militia or yeomanry commander, who reminded him that they had stipulated never to quit the country,—'Never,' said Pitt, 'except in case of actual invasion.' \* \* Mr. Fox used to ask of a speech, 'Does it read well?'—'Yes'—'Then it was not a good speech.' \* \* Curran said when asked what there was doing in the House of Lords? 'Only Lord Moira, *airing his vocabulary*:' better than anything P. has told of him. \* \* A good thing of Horne Tooke, when a certain *raffish* gentleman said to him at the hustings,—'Well, Mr. Tooke, you have all the blackguards with you this morning;' 'I am delighted to hear it, sir,—and from such *excellent* authority too.'"

Paley could be as savage as Horne Tooke. Here is a bitter retort from an Archdeacon.—

"Received a long letter from my friend Dr. Parkinson, inclosing as usual a little sum for his god-daughter, Anastasia; an excellent man, and of a most gentle nature, ill-calculated to bear such a rebuff as he once had from Paley. Parkinson was saying that Bakewell, the great breeder of cattle, had the power of fattening his sheep in whatever part of the body he chose, and could direct it to shoulder, leg, &c. just as he thought proper; 'and this,' says Parkinson, 'is the great problem of his art.'—'It's a lie, sir,' says Paley, 'and that's the solution of it.'"

Statesmen at times enjoy a curious course of reading.—

"I mentioned I had heard that Mr. Fox was very fond of Barrow. Lord Holland said he was not aware of this; but Lord Chatham was, and of reading 'Bailey's Dictionary.' I said that it was a practice of Curran's too to read through the dictionary."

A mob was never quieter more innocently than by Tarleton; who seems to have wanted the power of pleasing in conversation which belonged to his celebrated namesake, the clown.—

"Dined at Rogers's, by my own invitation: the company, a Mr. Hibbert and his daughter, Luttrell, Sharpe, and Miss Rogers. The dinner most excellent. Luttrell told us about Hare, describing Tarleton, on some occasion when there was a mob collected round Devonshire House, saying to them, 'My good fellows, if you grow riotous, I shall really be obliged to *talk to you*.'—Upon which, (said Hare) they dispersed immediately."

Gifford, the editor of the "Quarterly,"—that "cankered carle," as Moore happily calls him in another place,—was in one respect, at least, an admirer of Holland House.—

"Called upon Gifford, editor of the *Quarterly*; have known him long, but forbore from calling upon him ever since I meditated 'Lalla Rookh,' lest it might look like trying to propitiate his criticism; the mildest man in the world till he takes a pen in his hand, but then all gall and spitefulness. Spoke of Holland House. He knew it, he said, by report; wished there was a Holland House on the other side of the question, but there was not; said it was in politics and literature what Sir J. Banks's house was in science; and neither could be replaced."

—We have heard the same regret expressed on several occasions by the late Mr. Murray the publisher.

Here is a new anecdote of Burns, told on good authority.—

"Allen mentioned that one of the things which brought Burns into disgrace with his excise master was a toast which he gave, 'Here's the last verse of the last chapter of the last book of Kings.' He was also accused of having called for *ça ira* at the Dumfries theatre."



A tradition at Holland House rests, we fancy, on weaker testimony.—

"Addison, according to the tradition of Holland House, used, when composing, to walk up and down the long gallery there, with a bottle of wine at each end of it, which he finished during the operation. There is a little white house, too, near the turnpike, to which he used to retire when the Countess was particularly troublesome. \* \* Crowe repeated some political things he had written, and which he is half inclined to publish, under the title 'Sweepings of my Uncle's Study,' one of them was on the birth of the King, and rather poetically imagined: he supposes the good and evil Genii all assembled on the occasion, and the latter spoiling every gift which the former conferred on the infant. Two lines I remember for their rhyme: he describes the evil Genii with faces livid as those one sees

After a battle, such as Cribb's is,  
And spiteful as Sir Vicary Gibbs is."

Lord Holland was a favourite with all who knew him,—and his appearance is happily preserved to us by Mr. Rogers.—

"Lord Holland full of sunshine as usual. 'He always comes down to breakfast (says Rogers very truly) like a man upon whom some sudden good fortune had just fallen.'"

Lord Lansdowne has doubtless penetrated the true cause of Sir Samuel Romilly's suicide.—

"While I was at dinner Lord Lansdowne called; was denied to him; but he asked to write a note, and the maid was showing him upstairs, so in my alarm lest he should surprise Bess, I made my appearance, and brought him into the parlour, where the little things and I were in the very thick of boiled beef and carrots. He sat some time; talked of poor Romilly; said he had hardly slept since he heard of the circumstance; wondered they had not applied leeches. I asked whether R.'s affection for his wife was so very strong as to account for this effect; he said it was; but Romilly was a stern, reserved sort of man, and she was the only person in the world to whom he wholly unbent and unboomed himself; when he lost her, therefore, the very vent of his heart was stopped up."

Men who talk much will sometimes get into scrapes;—and no one will envy Mr. Moore his position at a dinner-table on one occasion.—

"Got into a sad scrape during dinner, by repeating Byron's unpardonable verses upon poor Romilly; for I found afterwards, that Romilly's son was sitting opposite to me."

Coalitions, it is said, have never been liked in England; and, at this ministerial juncture, our readers will be curious to see what can be said in their favour. The Whig view of a coalition is here stated by Lord Lansdowne, Sir James Mackintosh, and Mr. Allen.—

"Had some conversation with Lord Lansdowne before dinner. Talked of the impeachment of Hastings; asked him his impression on the subject. He said he looked upon Hastings as an irregular man, using violent means for purposes, which, perhaps, nothing but irregular and violent means would answer, as his command and situation in India were of such a particularly difficult and embarrassing nature. Agreed with me, that the impeachment was a sort of dramatic trial of skill, got up from the various motives I mentioned: to which he added, what had not struck me before, Dundas's fear of Hastings' ascendancy in Indian affairs, both from his knowledge and talent, and his favour with the King, to whom the arbitrariness of Hastings' government was rather a recommendation of him: Dundas used India as a sort of colony for Scotland. Talked of the great question about the abatement of an impeachment by dissolution of Parliament, upon which the lawyers and statesmen divided, and the latter had the best of it in every respect: Erskine too much of a lawyer not to join his craft on this occasion. When Burke was told of Erskine's opinion, 'What!' said he, 'a nisi-pris lawyer give an opinion on an impeachment! as well might a rabbit, that breeds fifty times in the year, pretend to understand the gestation of an elephant.' How admirable this is! \* \* Talked of Burke, Fox, &c. coalitions. Lord Lansdowne thinks the principle of coalitions not only just, but necessary in a free country, otherwise the Court

might bear down everything before it. The same principle, he thinks, applies to party and to coalitions; a compromise and surrender of individual differences of opinion for the attainment of one common object. Owned he might be biased in speaking of the two great coalitions; Mr. Fox with Lord North, and Mr. Fox again with Lord Grenville, as the former was opposed to his father, and in the latter he himself was concerned: but to him it appeared that there were grounds of justification for the latter which did not exist in the former, as Mr. Fox, in the former case, coalesced with Lord North to defeat what was the result of all his own former efforts and measures, viz. peace; whereas, in joining with Lord Grenville, he but pursued, in most instances, the same objects which he had contended for when in opposition. There is a great deal of truth in this. \* \* Mackintosh defends coalitions warmly, and is certainly right as to the general principle, though some of the particular instances have been unlucky. The eighteenth century full of coalitions; the Revolution brought about by a coalition; Lord Chatham's coalition with the Duke of Newcastle, which turned out so prosperously. I mentioned, as one of the discreditable and unfortunate coalitions, that of Mr. Pulteney, in 1741, though this was between Whigs and Whigs. M. said that, unless coalitions were allowed, we must submit for ever to a standing Court Ministry; and the Opposition must become merely a sort of Tribunitian Band, who, being unchecked by those hopes of succeeding to power, which at present moderate the temper of their opposition, and prevent them from committing themselves to rash opinions or impracticable measures, would run into all sorts of violence, and produce such shocks as would at last ruin the constitution. Mr. Pitt, he said, had himself been in negotiation for a coalition with Lord North, though he afterwards condemned Fox so much for forming it. Fox, too, was in treaty with Lord Shelburne before he coalesced with Lord North; but though he had more points of contact in politics with the former, he disliked the man; whereas, though differing so much with Lord North in public, he had a strong regard and sympathy for his private character; so that, while he incurred the charge of inconsistency in joining with Lord North, he would have sacrificed every private feeling in coalescing with Lord Shelburne. \* \* Had some talk with Allen about coalitions: he referred me for his opinions upon that between Fox and Lord Grenville, to the 'History of Europe' in the 'Annual Register' for 1806, which he himself had written. With respect to the coalition of Fox and Lord North, he considered it to have been rendered quite necessary by the overwhelming power of the Court, which could not otherwise have been opposed than by a union of the two included parties."

From "coalitions" let us pass to "conundrums." A Diary should contain something of everything.

"Some tolerable conundrums mentioned by the ladies:—'Why is the Prince of Homburg like a successful gamster?—Because he has gained a great Bet.' 'Why doesn't U go out to dinner with the rest of the alphabet?—Because it always comes after T.' 'What are the only two letters of the alphabet that have eyes?—A and B, because A B C (see) D.' I mentioned one or two of Beresford's (author of the 'Miseries of Human Life') most ludicrously far-fetched. 'Why is a man who bets on the letter O that it will beat P in a race to the end of the alphabet, like a man asking for one sort of tobacco and getting some other?—Because it is wrong to back O (tobacco).' 'Why must a man who commits murder in Leicester Square necessarily be acquitted?—Because he can prove an alley by (alibi).'"

Moore is not often critical on books; but when he offers an opinion, on his contemporaries especially, he is generally pretty severe.—

Dryden's Virgil. — "Dryden's 'Virgil' badly done almost throughout: Pitt's seems far better; at least more generally readable."

Prior. — "Lord Lansdowne asked me what was the poem of Prior's I had once mentioned to him as very pretty; he had been often trying to recollect it. It was 'Dear Chloe, how blubbered,' &c. &c. We took it down and read it. Nothing

can be more gracefully light and gallant than this little poem. I mentioned Lowth's objections to the last two lines as ungrammatical, correctness requiring 'than she' and 'than I,' but it is far prettier as it is."

Wycherley. — "Read Wycherley's 'Country Wife,' an admirable comedy, but the foundation of its plot makes it not only unactable, but even unreadable, except by men. It is, however, full of life and the very *esprit du diable*, and must have delighted Charles and his witty, profligate courtiers beyond anything. No wonder Wycherley was such a favourite with him."

Murphy. — "Churchill was not so very far out in saying of Murphy that 'dulness marked him for a mayor.' He was a dull man, in spite of his comedies, which act well, but read most ponderously. There are, however, two or three witty things in this play. Dashwood's speech about the M.P.'s rust in his handkerchief is worthy of Sheridan. Lady Bell an admirable acting part."

Mackenzie. — "Finished the 'Man of Feeling' to Bessy in the evening. There are few duller books, I think; how could it have got such reputation? The pinching the lapdog's ear 'in the bitterness of his heart' is almost the only good thing in it."

On Sir Walter Scott Moore is invariably severe.—

"I have read *Walter-loo*, since I heard from you. The battle murdered many, and he has murdered the battle: 'tis sad stuff; Hougoumont rhyming to 'long,' 'strong,' &c. He must have learned his pronunciation of French from Solomon Grundy in the play—'Commoning dong, as they say in Dunkirk.' \* \* Did you ever see much worse songs than those in 'Rokeby'? \* \* In writing to Longman the other day, I said, 'Between you and me, I don't much like Scott's poem,' and I had an answer back, 'We are very sorry you do not like Mr. Scott's book. Longman, Hurst, Orme, Rees, Brown,' &c. What do you think of this for a 'between you and me.'"

The scene of the 'Meeting of the Waters' is partly real, partly imaginary.—

"Had a letter from Lees, of the county of Wicklow, begging me to decide the question which was producing 'a sort of civil war' in the neighbourhood, whether I wrote my song of 'The Meeting of the Waters' under Castle Howard, at the meeting of the Avon and Avoca, or at the meeting of the river, four miles lower down, under Ballyarthur House. William Parnell wrote to me on the same subject two or three years since. The fact is, I wrote the song at neither place, though I believe the scene under Castle Howard was the one that suggested it to me. But all this interest shows how wise Scott was in connecting his poetry with beautiful scenery: as long as the latter blooms, so will the former."

Moore's habits of composition are thus related by himself. Like Pope, he was happiest when in bed.—

"Breakfasted in bed for the purpose of hastening the remainder of my 'Cribb' work. It is singular the difference that bed makes, not only in the facility, but the fancy of what I write. Whether it be the horizontal position (which Richerand, the French physiologist, says is most favourable to thought), or more probably the removal of all those external objects that divert the attention, it is certain that the effect is always the same; and if I did not find that it relaxed me exceedingly, I should pass half my days in bed for the purpose of composition."

We have previously remarked on Moore's sense of independence;—and we feel pleasure in extracting such instances as these.—

"I begged of Perry, however, to put a stop to his intentions of proposing a subscription. Perry most friendly offered every assistance in his power, and suggested whether a private subscription, in the way of a loan, might not be got up among my own immediate friends, without inciting any objection in my mind. He had already cited Charles Fox as a precedent, for a subscription; but this was a blemish in Fox's life to be deplored rather than imitated; and I never shall forget Sir Charles Hastings complaining to me once of Fox's *hauteur* in scarcely returning his bow, 'Though, by G.— (says Sir Charles), I was one of those who gave 300l. towards his maintenance.' Who would have this said of him that



could, by a crust and water, avoid it? \* \* Sat with Rogers in his room till dinner. Told me that Beckford (*the Beckford*) is delighted with 'Lalla Rookh'; heard so from Beckford himself in the spring, when I met him at Rogers's in town, and he was all raptures about it. Beckford wishes me to go to Fonthill with R.; anxious that I should look over his 'Travels' (which were printed some years ago, but afterwards suppressed by him), and prepare them for the press. Rogers supposes he would give me something magnificent for it—a thousand pounds, perhaps; but if he were to give me a hundred times that sum I would not have my name coupled with his. To be Beckford's *sub*, not very desirable."

There is much, of course, about Byron in these volumes. Here is a heroine unknown to the Byron commentators.—

"To the Deities ball in the evening: Lady Frances W. there; introduced to her, and had much conversation, chiefly about our friend Lord B. Several of those beautiful things, published (if I remember right) with 'The Bride,' were addressed to her. She must have been very pretty when she had more of the freshness of youth, though she is still but five or six and twenty; but she looks faded already. She told me she had an Album which was begun and nearly half written through by Lord B. (the first thing in it, 'When from the brow [heart], where sorrow sits'; and she had another, which was as yet blank, and which she had resolved to keep blank 'till an introduction to Mr. M. should enable her to ask him to begin it for her.' I fought this off as well as I could; said I must know her better before I could have the *tête montée* sufficiently for such an undertaking, &c."

The Diary supplies some new information about the delay in publishing 'Don Juan.'—

"Went to breakfast with Rogers, who is in the very agonies of parturition: showed me the work ready printed and in boards, but he is still making alterations: told me that Lord Byron's 'Don Juan' is pronounced by Hobhouse and others as unfit for publication. \* \* \* Talked [with Murray] of 'Don Juan': but too true that it is not fit for publication: he seems, by living so long out of London, to have forgotten that standard of decorum in society to which every one must refer his words at least, who hopes to be either listened to or read by the world. It is all about himself and Lady B., and raking up the whole transaction in a way the world would never bear. \* \* \* Asked him [Hobhouse], had I any chance of a glimpse at 'Don Juan'? and then found that Byron had desired it might be referred to my decision, the three persons whom he had bid Hobhouse consult as to the propriety of publishing it being Hookham Frere, Stewart Rose, and myself. Frere, as the only one of the three in town, had read it, and pronounced decidedly against the publication. \* \* \* Frere, came in while I was at Lady D.'s: was proceeding to talk to him about our joint unpopularity on Byron's poem, when he stopped me by a look, and we retired into the next room to speak over the subject. He said he did not wish the opinion he had pronounced to be known to any one except B. himself, lest B. should suppose he was taking merit to himself among the *righteous* for having been the means of preventing the publication of the poem. Spoke of the disgust it would excite, if published; the attacks in it upon Lady B.; and said it is strange, too, he should think there was any connexion between patriotism and profligacy. If we had a very Puritan court indeed, one can understand then profligacy being adopted as a badge of opposition to it, but the reverse being the case, there is not even that excuse for connecting dissoluteness with patriotism, which, on the contrary, ought always to be attended by the sternest virtues. \* \* \* Went to breakfast with Hobhouse, in order to read Lord Byron's poem: a strange production, full of talent and singularity, as everything he writes must be: some highly beautiful passages, and some highly humorous ones; but as a whole, not publishable. Don Juan's mother is Lady Byron, and not only her learning, but various other points about her, ridiculed. He talks of her favourite dress being dimity (which is the case), dimity rhyming very comically with sublimity; and the conclusion of one stanza is, 'I hate a dumpy woman,'

meaning Lady B. again. This would disgust the public beyond endurance. There is also a systematised profligacy running through it, which would not be borne. Hobhouse has undertaken the delicate task of letting him know our joint opinions. The two following lines are well rhymed,—

But, oh ye lords of ladies intellectual,  
Come, tell us truly, have they not hen-peck'd you all?  
\* \* \* Murray writes to me that Hobhouse has received another letter from Lord Byron, peremptorily insisting on the publication of 'Don Juan.' But they have again remonstrated."

There is much, of course, about Sheridan here,—and more than Moore was able or at liberty to tell when he wrote Sheridan's life.—

"Had a good deal of conversation with Lord Holland in the evening about Sheridan. Told me that one remarkable characteristic of S., and which accounted for many of his inconsistencies, was the high, ideal system he had formed of a sort of impracticable perfection, in honour, virtue, &c., anything short of which he seemed to think not worth aiming at; and thus consoled himself for the extreme laxity of his practice by the impossibility of satisfying or coming up to the sublime theory he had formed. Hence the most romantic professions of honour and independence were coupled with conduct of the meanest and most swindling kind; hence, too, prudery and morality were always on his lips, while his actions were one series of debauchery and libertinism. A proof of this mixture was, after the Prince became Regent, he offered to bring S. into parliament, and said, at the same time, that he by no means meant to fetter him in his political conduct by doing so; but S. refused, because, as he told Lord Holland, 'he had no idea of risking the high independence of character which he had always sustained, by putting it in the power of any man, by any possibility whatever, to dictate to him.' Yet, in the very same conversation in which he paraded all this fine flourish of high-mindedness, he told Lord H. of an intrigue he had set on foot for inducing the Prince to lend him 4,000*l.* to purchase a borough. From his habit of considering money as nothing, he considered his owing the Prince 4,000*l.* as no slavery whatever: 'I shall then (he said) only owe him 4,000*l.* which will leave me as free as air.' \* \* \* Sheridan was jealous of Mr. Fox, and showed it in ways that produced, at last, great coolness between them. He envied him particularly his being member for Westminster, and, in 1802, had nearly persuaded him to retire from parliament, in order that he might himself succeed to that honour. But it was Burke chiefly that S. hated and envied. Being both Irishmen, both adventurers, they had every possible incentive to envy. On Hastings' trial particularly it went to Sheridan's heart to see Burke in the place set apart for privy councillors, and himself excluded. \* \* \* In speaking of Sheridan's eloquence, Lord H. said that the over-strained notions he had of perfection were very favourable to his style of oratory in giving it a certain elevation of tone and dignity of thought. Mr. Fox thought his Westminster Hall speech, trumpery, and used to say it spoiled the style of Burke, who was delighted with it. Certainly in the report I have read of it, it seems most trashy bombast. At Holland House, where he was often latterly, Lady H. told me he used to take a bottle of wine and a book up to bed with him always; the former alone intended for use. In the morning he breakfasted in bed, and had a little rum or brandy with his tea or coffee; made his appearance between one or two, and pretending important business, used to set out for town, but regularly stopped at the Adam and Eve public-house for a dram. There was indeed a long bill run up by him at the Adam and Eve, which Lord H. had to pay. I wonder are all these stories true; the last is certainly but too probable. \* \* \* One day at Sheridan's house, before poor Tom went abroad, the servant in passing threw down the plate-warmer with a crash, which startled Tom's nerves a good deal. Sheridan, after scolding most furiously the servant, who stood pale and frightened, at last exclaimed, 'and how many plates have you broke?'—'Oh! not one sir,' answered the fellow, delighted to vindicate himself; 'and you, damned fool (said S.), have you made all that noise for nothing?' \* \* \* Sheridan, the first time he met

Tom, after the marriage of the latter, seriously angry with him; told him he had made his will, and had cut him off with a shilling. Tom said he was, indeed, very sorry, and immediately added, 'You don't happen to have the shilling about you now, sir, do you?' [This is a somewhat different version from the current one.]

Moore knew Monk Lewis.—

"Talked of poor Monk Lewis: his death was occasioned by taking emetics for sea-sickness, in spite of the advice of those about him. He died lying on the deck. When he was told all hope was over, he sent his man down below for pen, ink, and paper; asked him to lend him his hat; and upon that, as he lay, wrote a codicil to his will. Few men, once so talked of, have ever produced so little sensation by their death. He was ruining his negroes in Jamaica, they say, by indulgence, for which they suffered severely as soon as his back was turned; but he had enjoined it to his heirs, as one of the conditions of holding his estate, that the negroes were to have three additional holidays in the year; and has left a sort of programme of the way those holidays are to be celebrated,—the hour when the overseer is to sound his bell to summon them together, the toasts, &c.: the first toast to be 'the Lady Frederica, Duchess of York'; so like poor Lewis."

Here is a dinner-scene at the table of Perry, the editor of the *Morning Chronicle*.—

"I mentioned a good scene I was witness to at Perry's table, when the Duke of Sussex dined with him, when, to his horror, he found he had unconsciously asked a brother editor to meet his R.H. This was Doherty; the well-known, unfortunate ways-and-means Irishman, whom Perry had naked, without knowing much about him, and without intending he should meet the Duke of Sussex, who had only fixed to dine with Perry the day before. The conversation turning upon newspapers, the Duke said, in his high, squeak tone of voice, 'There is a Mr. Doherty I find, going to publish a paper.' I looked towards Doherty, and saw his face redden. 'Yes, sire,' said he, 'I am the person; I had the honour of sending your Royal Highness my prospectus.' I then looked towards Perry, and saw his face blacken; the intelligence was as new to him as to me. I knew what was passing in his mind, but so did not my honest friend Teggart, the apothecary, who, thinking that the cloud on Perry's brow arose from the fear of a rival journalist, exclaimed with good-natured promptitude, to put him out of pain, 'Oh, Mr. Doherty's is a weekly newspaper.' It was altogether excellent."

Of Crowe, the author of 'Lewesdon Hill,' one of the best descriptive poems that we possess, too little is known. We are glad, therefore, to find in Moore's Diary some particulars about him.—

"Crowe called, and found me in the garden at work. I thought he was come to pay his long promised visit, but he was on his way to dine at Deizes. Told me he remembered the first Mrs. Sheridan when Miss Linley; there was a degree of sternness, he said mixed with the beauty of her features; like her father, who was ill-tempered looking. Tom resembled her very much. This I have heard from every one. Walked with Crowe on his way through the fields. Talked to him of his work on the 'Structure of English Verse,' which he has been so long about. He told me his chief principle was, that there should be *quantity* as well as *accent* in an English verse. 'Thus,' he said, 'The merry bells of happy Trinity,' is right as to number of syllables and accent, but observe how you improve the quantity by substituting 'holy' for 'happy.' Milton, he said, always broke his line in the place where the sentence most cohered or hung together; separating the noun from the adjective, and disjoining the genitive case, &c. &c. 'I could tell,' he said, 'by the frequency of the recurrence of a particular word at the beginning of the lines, whether blank verses run smoothly into each other or not: what is that word?' I said, 'of,' and 'twas the word he meant. He made a distinction between our anapestic verses and our dactylic. 'God save great George our King' is a specimen of the dactylic; so is 'Merrily, merrily shall we live now.' He said he

had-quoted an extraordinary measure of mine in his work, a line consisting of nine syllables, 'Oh the days are gone when beauty bright; in the Irish Melodies.' Said he believed he had found something like it in one of Shakespeare's 'Sonnets.' Mentioned to him a still more extraordinary metre in the 'Melodies,' of which there are two specimens: 'At the mid-hour of night, when stars are weeping, I fly,' and 'Through grief and through danger thy smile hath cheer'd my way.'

What follows grew out of a conversation with Crowe.—

"The beautiful parts of the Psalms are much better in their present form than they would be in any metrical version. 'Oh that I had the wings of a dove,' &c. might be made metre by the alteration of only one word,

Oh that I had the pinnions of a dove,  
That I might flee away and be at rest.

But even this alteration spoils it. In the beautiful psalm 'By the waters of Babylon,' what is one to do with the phrase 'may my right hand forget its cunning?'

Of Morris, the song writer, there are some brief notices. Here is one.—

"Capt. Morris (Linley says) has an annuity of 200l. from the Prince still continued to him. The Duke of Norfolk left him no legacy, though he devoted his whole life to him; nor ever gave him anything but the life interest in a small cottage, at which he always passes the summer months."

Bowles, the poet, was Moore's neighbour: the two poets were often together.—

"Bowles showed me a part of his library; in which was collected, he told me, all the books illustrative of the divines of the time of Charles the First, and the theology of that period. The first book I put my hand on in this sacred corner was a volume of Tom Brown's works, &c. Bowles was amused in the midst of all his gravity by this detection. What with his genius, his blunders, his absences, &c., he is the most delightful of all existing persons or poets. \* \* Returned in an hour to Bowles, who wished me to read what he had done in answer to Campbell. Found him in the bar of the White Hart, dictating to a waiter (who acted as amanuensis for him) his ideas of the true sublime in poetry: never was there such a Parson Adams since the real one. \* \* Bowles told me of his having advised the poor psalm-writer (that comes to him for charity) to turn Dissenting preacher; of his rigging him out with an old black coat and breeches of his own, and saying, 'There, now you are fit to preach before anyone.' Excellent this in a minister of the establishment."

It is easy to see from the Diary how little Moore knew about Art. His criticisms on pictures are not many, it is true;—but they are always bald and remote from a true appreciation of the painter about whom he is speaking.

We cannot allow ourselves to close these volumes without the expression of a hope that Lord John Russell may think it right to bestow more pains on what he has yet to do than the portion now before the public has cost him. No doubt his Lordship's avocations are of a nature and importance which leave but little time for the pursuits of literature; but the admirers of Moore, and readers generally, will, nevertheless scarcely be satisfied without some of those authentic descriptions of Moore and his friends which are so essential to an intelligible Life of the Poet, and which his Lordship is so competent to supply. No doubt also, it is right that the subject of a memoir should be left to tell his own story in so far as the materials exist;—but there are omissions in every autobiography and series of letters which call for editorial supplement. Such supplement was furnished by Moore himself in the Life of Byron, and by Mr. Lockhart in that of Scott. We trust, Lord John has not outlived the ambition of being a good author, notwithstanding the old sneers against literary statesmen. Selden was hard upon titled poets:—"Tis ridiculous for a lord," said he, "to print verses; 'tis well enough to make them to please

himself, but to make them public is foolish." Ben Jonson was equally hard upon rich authors. "Your verses, good Sir, are no poems; they'll not hinder your rising i' the State." Lord Roscommon on the subject of titled poets is more to the purpose:—

A rich ill poet is without excuse;—and Dr. Johnson was of opinion that when a man of rank appears in the character of an author he deserves to have his merit handsomely allowed. Let his Lordship put Moore before his readers in a portraiture of his own,—and his merits will surely receive that handsome allowance which there is already a great disposition to pay to the friendship that has placed his name on the title-page of this work.

# A Treatise on Electricity in Theory and Practice.

By Augustus De la Rive. Longman & Co. A treatise on Electricity by M. De la Rive is a valuable addition to our scientific literature. Long, earnest, and successful research has made the ex-Professor in the Academy of Geneva familiar with every division of the subject; and, as a consequence, he describes clearly all the phenomena which he brings under consideration.

We were already in possession of one of the most beautiful series of researches in electricity which the world has produced,—being in itself a splendid exemplification of the philosophy of induction, and of the high value of abstract science. In Faraday's admirable researches the student can follow the experimentalist step by step,—and see that no single advance has been made without that preliminary indication by which one fact is constituted the interpreter to another, through the numerous links of the long extended serial chain, which began with the electricity of a magnetized iron bar, and ends by suggesting the universal influence of the power that pervades all planetary—and probably the inter-stellar spaces. But a compact treatise which should include some account of all that has been done, both at home and abroad—and which should fairly embrace a full examination of the theoretical views that have been promulgated—was required. Becquerel's "Traité d'Electricité" has supplied this want to the French scholar:—and this treatise by M. De la Rive,—which has been translated under the author's direction by Mr. C. V. Walker—now places the purely English student in possession of all the discovered facts in electricity.

We have already said, that the value of abstract science was fully proclaimed in the results of the researches of the great English electrician. Electricity in a more remarkable manner than any of the sciences is a substantive answer to those who desire to see an immediate practical result spring from every bald truth at the moment of its birth. No truth, we have before now observed, howsoever abstract it may appear, is discovered to man, which has not a commercial value of untold importance;—but in order to apply that truth, other truths must be learnt, and the deep mysteries of the laws of nature read in their native language. These being known, the applications of a scientific truth become easy;—but the utility of the attempts which are constantly made to apply a truth by those who have little knowledge of the laws by which it is regulated, should lead to the full conviction of the importance of abstract knowledge as cheapening the journey towards the much desired practical results. Well has M. De la Rive expressed this in his preface.—

"The philosophers of 1750 knew very little beyond that of the nature and properties of electricity. Who, at that time, could have supposed that meteorology would ere long discover in electricity the

cause of the grand phenomena of the atmosphere?—that heat would borrow from it its most perfect instruments, and the means of manifesting its most important laws?—that molecular physics would have employed it for the purpose of penetrating into the intimate constitution of bodies; and would have caused it to concur with polarized light in the manifestations of the relations that exist between ponderable matters and the imponderable ether? That chemistry would have been indebted to it for the discovery of new elements, and the formation of new compounds, its most powerful means of analysis and synthesis, and its most satisfactory theories? That mineralogy and geology would in a great measure have found in it the explanation of the origin of their crystals and of their strata? That physiology would have deduced from it a more intimate knowledge of the forces that rule over animated matter, and the secret of acting on such matter almost as life acts?—that medicine would have discovered in it resources against maladies hitherto assumed to be incurable?—that the metallurgic arts would have found in it new processes for extracting, moulding, and applying metals?—that finally it would have furnished to mechanics a force as prompt as thought, equally independent of time and space,—would have enabled intelligence to escape from its limited envelope, to dart at pleasure with the rapidity of lightning into the most distant regions."

The order of arrangement which has been adopted in this work is such as will lead the mind gradually from the most simple phenomena onward to the more complex,—from the ordinary electricity excited by friction to the exalted conditions of the force as manifested under the influences of chemical and vital action;—and then to a consideration of the applications which have been made, and of which it may be still further susceptible.

The first volume, long delayed, is all that is now published,—but the author promises the second in the spring. This will also be translated by Mr. C. V. Walker,—who has so far performed his task very judiciously.

# Pictures from Sicily. By the Author of 'Forty Days in the Desert.' Hall, Virtue & Co.

This is a very handsome and pleasing pictorial hand-book of the beauties of Sicily. The illustrations do honour alike to the artist, engraver and publishers,—and the text is, generally speaking, graphic and faithful. Nevertheless, Mr. Bartlett might have made a more agreeable volume had he indulged less in the easy luxury of description, and given a little more of personal adventure. Instead of this latter, we have frequent historical notices of the island, derived principally from the Sicilian historians Palmeri and Amari, and from Mr. Gally Knight's well-known work, 'The Normans in Sicily.'

We must find fault, too, with Mr. Bartlett for taking up a considerable portion of his book in carrying his reader over the well-beaten track across the Continent, through France and Italy, to Sicily,—giving guide-book accounts of Pisa, Florence, and Naples. Sicily, from its insular position, and yet more from its political disturbances and want of good inns, is comparatively little visited,—and has abundant materials within its interesting towns, ancient Norman fortresses, and among its wild mountains, for more than one book of amusing adventure. If Etna be in one of its fiery moods, it is needless to say, that it must supply chapters of no ordinary interest;—even, however, when comparatively at rest, an ascent to its lofty crater is not without incidents,—as witness our author's account of this undertaking.—

"We soon quitted the Bosco, and scrambled up the open mountain side at the pleasure of our horses, and by paths which, on descending the next day, we were utterly unable to recognise. The Germans roared out fragments of national songs: 'without mitigation or remorse of voice;' but this wild-fire was shortly spent.



As we got higher and higher up the unsheltered side of the mountain, the temperature grew rapidly colder, and a keen wind, from which the forests had sheltered us, began to chill us to the very bone. It was curious enough to hear the catches gradually growing fainter and fainter, until they ceased altogether. \* \* \* Our jaws were going like castanets when we reached the Casa Inglese, which appeared, as Signor Gemellaro had informed us, almost in a state of ruin. It was about two in the morning, the stars yet shining brightly, and the cone faintly distinguishable in the background. \* \* \* Halting for a moment to gather fresh energy, we began the steep ascent, rendered additionally toilsome by the looseness of the soil, and the furious gusts of wind, which threatened fairly to blow us off our legs. As we drew nearer the summit, at every few steps we were obliged to halt for breath, and plant our feet more firmly in the ashy soil, or avail ourselves of a projecting lump of sulphur to gain a safer foothold. There was an evident struggle who should get first to the top: for my own part, I reached it about the midst of the party, and, fairly exhausted with fatigue, dropped down full length on the crusted sulphur a little below the cone, so as to shelter myself from the keen and icy wind. The rest came toiling slowly up, assisted by the guides; and just as day began to break, the whole body were assembled at the summit of Etna. The guides had timed the thing exactly. It was between three and four; the stars were rapidly disappearing from the paling sky, while the eastern horizon began to faintly redden with the dawn. Those who have never witnessed, can scarcely realize by any description the strangeness of such a scene. Everything in the vast gulf below was dark and formless—the sea barely distinguishable from the land—vast whitish clouds like wool-sacks floating solemnly above it. A few bars of crimson soon appeared on the eastward horizon, the sea-line became defined, the jagged edges of the distant mountains of Apulia cut against the sky. At this moment our guides shouted to us to stand up on the edge of the crater, and look out over the interior of the island, which stretched away to the westward like a sea of rugged summits, blended in the shadowy mist of dawn. Just as the sun rose, an immense shadow of the most exquisite purple was projected from the volcano half over the island, while without its range the light struck with magic suddenness upon the tops of the mountains below,—a phenomenon so admirably beautiful that it would have more than repaid us for the labour of the ascent. The wind had now become so violent and penetrating that not one of us was able to make the circuit of the crater, or indeed to stand up to windward for more than a few moments together. The crater, however, so far as we could observe, is not in itself by any means so striking as that of Vesuvius. All the top of the mountain is heated, and little jets of steam shoot up at intervals from the crevices of the yellow-crusted sulphur. The view from Etna proved rather different from what previous descriptions had led me to anticipate. Vastness and dreary sublimity predominate, relieved with some few touches of exquisite beauty. Standing on the dread summit of the volcano, the eye takes in with astonishment the immense extent of the region, at once desolated and fertilized by its eruptions. Wide beds of lava—black, abrupt, and horrid—may be traced down its deep sinuosities and chasms, winding half concealed among the extensive forests below, even through the midst of the fertile region which reposes at its base, until they pour into the sea; and interspersed with these are broad dismal beds of ashes and scoræ,—the seat of eternal desolation. Beneath the Bosco, and around the base of Etna, the boundary of the region subject to its effects may be distinctly traced. Beyond, in all directions, extend the fertile plains and mountains of the island, the latter, however, of an aspect little less wild and desolate than that of Etna itself. The range of the view is almost boundless,—Catania, Syracuse, and even, when clear, Malta itself are visible. Castro Giovanni stands up on its rock, conspicuous in the centre of the island. The expanse of sea is most magnificent, with the distant mountains of Calabria and Apulia, and the entrance to the Faro di Messina."

A companion picture to this scene of natural

desolation will give some notion of the slumbering social volcano around whose edge the Sicilians live.—

"To see the beautiful quay of Messina at sunset, one might not suppose that any secret discontent was brooding among the people. Gay equipages and gallant cavaliers dash past; a crowd of pedestrians press along, hurrying to take their evening walk along the fine road which borders the northern shore of the strait. The sea-breeze blows in fresh and bracing; the opposite mountains of Calabria, with the deep ravines and snow-topped peaks, are dyed in the gorgeous red of a southern sunset, which slowly fades away, till they stand grey and awful in the twilight, and the rising moon begins to show upon the Faro, and tinge the vessels working up and down the channel with fitful gleams of light. It is the hour of enjoyment in the warm south: the artificer, his work over, inhaling the freshness, sits at his open door, while his children play in the street; old gossips, ranged along the wall, indulge in their most intimate communications; the young people walk abroad, conversing in hushed breath, in an atmosphere that breathes of love; cafés and ice-shops are filled; everything seems given up to quiet luxurious enjoyment. But the invisible presence of despotism is there like a blight; the spy is plying his dirty work abroad; and of those who walk forth amidst their friends or children in the twilight, perhaps some one before the following morning is doomed, for a thoughtless word or even on mere suspicion, to be dragged from his bed and thrown into a dungeon. It was not unusual, I was told, for members of families who knew that they lay under the ban of the authorities, to wish each other good night with peculiar solemnity, as uncertain whether the next day might behold them assembled together."

Had Mr. Bartlett confined his pictures to such extracts as we have given of Sicily and Sicilian manners, he would have produced a more acceptable work. As it is, however, this is a very elegant gift-book, with an interest beyond its pictorial claims upon this Christmas time.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The White Rose of the Huron.* By Georgina C. Munro, Author of 'The Voyage of Life.' 3 vols. —To this romance the most appropriate motto would be the soliloquy of *Miggs* in 'Barnaby Rudge'—"Oh gracious! here's mysteries!" Here are mysteries which begin so early,—"cross hands, down the middle, and up again," with such intricacy,—and are dissipated at last only, by so many strange accidents and stray pistol-shots,—that we honestly profess our incapacity to give any clear account of them to our readers. Enough to say that, in Chapter the first, a couple of mysterious children—brother and sister (who have been mysteriously for many years prohibited from communicating with each other)—sit down and begin to ask in *duetto*, "Who are we?" "Where did we come from?" "To whom do we belong?" "What does it all mean?"—The youth, having absolutely no data, save the silence of the spinster to whom they have been intrusted,—decides that they must belong to somebody—takes a vow of vengeance on the spot against other persons unknown—and in commencement of its execution, frightens to death the old maid, who, alone, had, apparently, the key to the cipher in her possession. This, it will be confessed, is a tolerably spirited first scene; and we can assure the reader whom it allures, that he need not fear any lack of similar matter in continuation and in conclusion. No one, however,—least of all the authoress—would expect from us a complete exposition of the argument of such an arrant melo-drama;—which accordingly, we may leave with a safe conscience to the favour of those who are the best pleased by the largest display of wonders—and who preferred quantity to quality.

*Broomhill; or, the County Beauties.* 3 vols.—This is a pretty novel,—devoted to balls, love-making, hope long deferred, hearts bruised and broken,—a tale of life in polite society among persons of easy fortune, seriously showing that neither "politeness" nor "ease" make up a fairy ring within

which wearing thought or lasting sorrow cannot abide. The class-novelists, it may be feared, are too apt, in the prejudiced eagerness of their benevolence, to lose sight of this truth—and hence the old-fashioned fiction, in which no direct teaching is attempted, if set against stories of "social evils" may now acquire a value which it did not formerly possess. But considered without reference to secondary morals or meanings, 'Broomhill' is, we repeat, a pretty novel.—Its author has contrived to make us believe that the "County Beauties" were really beautiful by showing their power to fascinate a widely-various army of suitors. The brilliant sister marries "the wrong man," and pays the price for her mistake; but our novelist is to be thanked for sparing us, in the details of Ellen's married life, that distasteful exhibition of the rebellious and remorseful woman yielding to temptation which is so generally produced in similar junctures. Nor is the entanglement of Flora's heart-affairs managed less to our liking. Prudential considerations tyrannically stand betwixt her and the lover whom she has chosen; but the father, who plays tricks with Cecil Tracy's happiness in refusing his consent to their match, plays his tricks with a hand nearer than for the most part (in fiction) intermeddles with such a game.—The dialogue is easy,—the interest is well sustained,—the smiles and tears are nicely mixed in quantity,—and the end is agreeable, without insulting our experience of the world by exhibiting catastrophes and changes which do not in real life wind up the tale of mortal vicissitude and sorrow.

*The Cabin and Parlour; or, Slaves and Masters.* By J. Thornton Randolph.—This tale is advertised within its own American cover as "chaste, amusing, and at times thrilling."—The title has already declared its nature and origin to the reader. Consequent on the vogue of 'The Mysteries of Paris,' we were favoured with "the mysteries" of every capital city under the sun, moon and seven stars.—Like Mr. Suë, Mrs. Stowe must pay for her popularity by founding a library of fiction. In the class of books apt to be collected on such occasions—and in the influences, artistic and moral, which such books are calculated to exercise—dissentients from the value of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' (let its power be ever so unquestionable) find the thesis of their dissent. In the 'Cabin and Parlour,' however, there is not much to quarrel with.

*Adolphe Renouard; or, Peasant Life and Political Clubs in France.* By James Ward. With numerous Engravings.—Though as M. Louis Reybaud gave us occasion the other day, in his 'Marie Brontin,' to see,—the first French Revolution is not yet deserted as an exhausted mine by the novelist,—here we have the third French Revolution of '48 moralized in a well-considered story written with some power and pains.—Probably, many more tales embodying the dreams, struggles and sufferings of Socialism may be looked for. The second French Revolution, (that of '30) seems to be universally passed over by common consent. Is it because it is too recent—or too remote?—or because what is poetical and picturesque had small share therein?—This question is worthy of a moment's speculation on the part of all dreamers, or of those who are alive to contrasts;—and where is there a city that yields these in such close juxtaposition as Paris?—On the left-hand, Napoleon *Trois*, riding in to take imperial possession of the *Tuileries*,—on the right, the china of the *Roi Citoyen*, stamped with his crown and cipher, exposed for second-hand sale in the *bric-à-brac* shops of the *Palais Impérial*! But we must not begin to speculate or to dream when the matter in hand is merely to put a fair construction on 'Adolphe Renouard.'

*Greece: Pictorial, Descriptive and Historical.* By Christopher Wordsworth.—Having already gone through more than one edition, and enjoyed the honour of translation into French and Italian, Dr. Wordsworth's 'Greece' may be almost considered a standard book. Whatever it is in the nature of beautiful type, numerous and admirable illustrations, and a thorough revision of the



text to do in confirmation of a favourable literary sentence, may be expected from this new edition. A more attractive book as to its art and embellishment we rarely find on our table.—Many new engravings have been introduced,—and Mr. Scharf, jun., has contributed a variety of notes in an introductory chapter on "The Characteristics of Greek Art."

*The Poetical Works of Edgar Allan Poe, with a Notice of his Life and Genius.* By James Hannay, Esq. With Twenty Illustrations.—Some of these twenty illustrations are gracefully fantastic. The biographical notice is perversely sentimental. The story of Poe's life was told by himself so largely and loudly to the public by the daily papers of America, that to attempt to colour over its shames with sympathy and apology is idle.—The poems, with their strange, unwholesome, unequal vigour (night-mare verses, if such things can be) speak for themselves. Their writer, apart from his works, had best be forgotten.

*Popular Education: The National Society,—the Two Manchester Schemes,—the Committee of Privy Council. A Letter to the Right Rev. Edward Denison, D.D., Lord Bishop of Salisbury.* By John Wilkinson.—This rather clumsy and inexpressive title ushers a truly orthodox pamphlet into the world on the vexed question of education. Mr. Wilkinson is a country clergyman of very warm feeling and somewhat obtuse intellect. In his zeal against secular education, he heeds not what beams he knocks his head against. What will the reader think of a writer who deliberately quotes his facts about the manufacturing districts from that absurd prize essay by the Rev. Henry Worsley? But in truth, Mr. Wilkinson's matter is about as good as his style—and both are much worse than we care to read.

*BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG AND FOR CHILDREN.—The Boy Hunters; or, Adventures in Search of a White Buffalo.* By Capt. Mayne Reid. With Illustrations by W. Harvey.—Capt. Reid's new story "showeth" how an old hunter and naturalist, living at Point Coupée on the Mississippi, having been applied to by his intimate friend Prince Lucien Bonaparte to furnish him with the skin of a white buffalo in all its integrity, permits his three sons to go out on a hunting expedition to procure the curiosity in question. The boys undergo all the narrow escapes from perils in the wilderness which belong to a book of this kind,—and they exhibit all the preternatural endurance and presence of mind necessary for their extrication and no less indispensable to the romance. Some facts of natural history are scattered through the pages, which may render them profitable as well as entertaining after their crazy kind. But Capt. Mayne Reid is not altogether the safe guide for youth which his Dedication professes him to be. There are such things as a theatrical and violent love of nature,—as a deification of manly sport to a height (nay, let us rather say a *depth*) at which the human creature is not far from being brutalized;—and our author, in his passion for effect, approaches both these points of danger. Further, he is illogical in perpetually flinging at and angrily running down the race of closet naturalists and men of science, in favour of more savage woodmen and "boy-hunters,"—seeing that the argument of his book is, the satisfaction of the desire of a Prince-naturalist by faithful and energetic ministers to the Prince's closest love of natural history.—*The Vicarage of Elwood: a Tale.* By Emma Augusta Bridges. With Preface by the Rev. W. B. Flower.—Having written a doctrinal story, Miss Bridges appears to have submitted it to the Rev. Mr. Flower; who has heightened her arguments in some passages,—and in a Preface, or preliminary sermon, warrants her tale as salutary. Its purpose is, to recommend Protestant confession to all Protestants desirous of confessing. Its incidents are rather foolish.—*Arbelle: a Tale for Young People*, by Jane Winnard Hooper, is more welcome to us than the inconclusive preaching just dismissed, because it is not doctrinal, but merely the story of a girl thrown for many years on the charity of a sharp-tempered but benevolent schoolmistress, and thriving under the discipline. As forming part of such a narrative, Arbelle's later encounter with her own family is too

romantic:—resembling rather one of the surprises which Miss Mitford loved to introduce into her village tales, than the real sequel to a childhood like Arbelle's. Probable or improbable, however, the book is full of happy touches and gracious feelings,—and we like it accordingly.—*Older and Wiser; or, Steps into Life: a Sequel to 'The Amyotts' Home'*, is a story of time, experience, and vicissitudes of fortune. It would seem difficult, now, to write a book about children which did not include pinched, if not ruined, parents. Yet Miss Edgeworth's 'Rosamond' and 'Frank'—albeit in their day objected to as over-prudential—contained no magnanimously economical boys, no preternaturally arithmetical girls, by aid of whom families were pulled up out of the Slough of Despond. To persons, however, who see nothing to be deprecated in this pattern of incident, 'Older and Wiser' may be recommended as a temperate, sensible narrative, written with the intention of quickening every generous impulse and kindly affection.—*Family Adventures*, by the Author of 'The Fairy Bower', is a collection of little tales, intended to prove that the average events which occur in families are as amusing as romances. This, however, is hardly made clear. The book is amiably meant and nicely written, but a little insipid.—*A Hero: Philip's Book*, by the Author of 'Olive', contains stuff more sinewy than the material of the books with which it is here coupled:—being a story of boy's life, in which are shown the uses, the pains, and the compensations attending the manly virtues of truth, honour, and endurance. The effect of the pictures exhibited is impaired by their framework, which is obtrusive, and will fret the patience of such readers as wish to move forward without stopping for dramatic preamble or sly parenthesis.—*The Little Drummer; or, Filial Affection. A Story of the Russian Campaign*, translated from the German of Gustav Nieritz, by H. W. Dulcken,—is the tale, as the title imports, of a German boy in war-time:—so fierce and fearful enough in its incidents,—but, we doubt not, true; and beyond doubt interesting.—*Far Famed Tales from the Arabian Nights' Entertainments*, illustrated with forty engravings,—and *Aladdin and Sindbad*, illustrated with thirty-one engravings,—are neatly printed and nicely decorated versions of dear old Eastern romances.—*A Day of Pleasure: a Simple Story for Young Children*, by Mrs. Harriet Myrtle, is a picture and reading book, skillfully calculated for the use and comfort of small clients. Mr. Hablot K. Browne is answerable for the illustrations.—*The Adventures of a Bear, and a Great Bear Too*, by Alfred Elwes, with nine illustrations by Harrison Weir, is meant to offer a regale of fun to the young. The mirth and meaning, however, are a little too cunningly disguised to be heartily relished. Those who write for children are bound by the same law as those writing for stage representation:—above everything, to be clear in what they mean and in what they say.

At the close of the year, it is convenient to bring up and close our account of the serials and popular libraries still in course of publication.—Mr. Murray has reprinted in his "Railway Reading" a selection of papers from Mr. Hallam's *Introduction to the Literature of Europe*, and in the same series we have a new edition, the sixth, of Sir Francis B. Head's *Emigrant*.—Mr. Bohn has added to his "Scientific Library" Dr. Whewell's contribution to the Bridgewater Treatises, *Astronomy and General Physics, considered with reference to Natural Theology*,—and Dr. John Kidd's volume *On the Adaptation of External Nature to the Physical Condition of Man*.—The same publisher has brought out *The Greek Anthology and the Comedies of Plautus*—translated by H. T. Riley, in his "Classical Library"—the first volume of a translation by Dr. Giles of *Matthew Paris's English History* in his "Antiquarian Library,"—a new edition of Mr. Wheeler's *Analysis and Summary of Herodotus* in his "Philological Library,"—and the first volume of a new edition of the *Life and Correspondence of John Foster*, edited by J. E. Ryland, in his "Standard Library."—A reprint of Commander Wilkes's *Narrative of the United States Exploring Expedition during the Years 1839—1842*, and Madame Pfeiffer's *Holy Land, Egypt and*

*Italy*, have appeared in Mr. Ingram's "Illustrated Library."—The additions to *Grimm's Household Stories* are *The Two Murderers and Snow-White and Rose-Red*.—Francis Newman's essay on *The Soul, its Sorrows and its Aspirations*, is reprinted in "Chapman's Library for the People."—Mr. Bentley has added to his "Shilling Series" a reprint of Prof. Cressy's essay on *Waterloo* from "The Fifteen Decisive Battles."—Mr. T. C. Grattan's *Cogol's Hut* and the same writer's *Conscript's Bride* have been printed in a single volume for "The Parlour Library."—The cheap reprint of Sir Bulwer Lytton's romances has reached *Dereux*,—the octavo edition of the "Encyclopædia Metropolitana" the reprint of the historical articles on *Greece, Macedonia and Syria*,—and *The Museum of Classical Antiquities* its seventh number.—We have before us two new editions of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.—Mr. Ingram's illustrated edition and Mr. Routledge's shilling edition.—Of the clever little controversial work called *Restoration of Belief* a new Part has made its appearance.—Currier Bell's *Shirley* has been reprinted in a cheap form,—as has also the Rev. Charles Kingsley's *Alton Locke*.—We have before us the tenth volume, second series, of *The Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester*—a new edition of Coleridge's *Dramatic Works*—and a revised edition of Dr. Schleiden's work—*The Plant: a Biography*.

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## THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

In a letter published in the *Athenæum* for December 18, p. 1395, it is stated on the authority of the Royal Commissioners [for the Exhibition of 1851] "that the majority of the Fellows and Members of the scientific Societies live to the west of Charing Cross." This assertion, relating to a statistical fact which bears in the most important degree upon a proposal of vital interest to the Societies, has, I presume, been verified by actual numeration; and I trust that the details of numbers will be published. With regard, however, to one of the chartered Societies, I am in a position to make a statement which militates strongly against the assertion which I have cited. Under the direction of the officers of the Royal Astronomical Society, a geographical census of the London members of that Society has been carefully taken. The result is, that *two-thirds* of the London members reside to the east of Charing Cross; the numbers being (within one or two units each) one hundred east and fifty west of Charing Cross.

I inclose a copy of Resolutions passed by the Council of the Royal Astronomical Society in reference to the proposed location of the Societies at Kensington Gore. I am, &c.

G. B. AIRY.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich, December 30.

1. That the Council observe with regret, in the Second Report (page 34) of Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1851, expressions which may seem to imply that many members of their body have expressed opinions favourable to the removal of this Society from Somerset House, and its juxtaposition with other Societies in a building which it is in contemplation to erect at Kensington Gore.
2. That the above implication is altogether founded on mistake, the subject never having been before the Council, except as to the question of juxtaposition, on the occasion of a conversational mention of it after the conclusion of business, on which occasion a strong feeling of satisfaction with the present position of the Society was almost unanimously expressed in a full meeting.
3. That the Council acknowledge with the warmest gratitude the great benefit the Society has received from successive Governments, in being allowed to occupy for eighteen years its present apartments in Somerset House, a locality excellently well fitted by its central position for a body whose resident members are distributed in all parts of London.
4. That the Council have heard of, and considered, the plan proposed by Her Majesty's Commissioners for locating the Scientific Societies in one building, to be erected at Kensington Gore, and that they are unanimously of opinion that it is totally impossible the working of the Astronomical Society could be carried on at such a distance from the central parts of London; inasmuch that they have not the least hesitation in declaring that a regard for the very existence of their body would compel them to decline with thankfulness the offer of apartments in the contemplated building.
5. That the working members of the Astronomical, as of other Societies, have, for the most part, heavy avocations, and can only give to the Society a share of the leisure which those avocations leave them; and that the removal of the Society to any suburb would certainly withdraw from the conduct of its affairs most of those working members who reside at great distances from that suburb.
6. That on every account the Council will feel it their duty to petition Her Majesty, in the event of the proposed plan being carried into effect, for continued permission to occupy their present apartments; and even in the event of departure from Somerset House becoming necessary, the Council would feel it their duty rather to endeavour to meet the expense of apartments in a situation which would admit of the continued efficiency of the Society, than to accept a boon which they are satisfied would be its ruin.
7. That a copy of these Resolutions be forwarded to Her Majesty's Commissioners, and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer; and that the Astronomical Society be a Committee for the purpose of communicating them to the President of the Royal Society, and of conferring with him, and such other public functionaries as he shall judge expedient.

A fortnight since [p. 1360] we gave it as our opinion that the Council of the Royal Society had been somewhat premature in raising objections to the Report of the Royal Commissioners,—the purport and spirit of which they appeared to have mistaken; but as the Council avowedly founded their objections "on reports" alone, we thought that a perusal of "the Report" would allay their fears.—It appears now, however, that the Council of the Astronomical Society have followed the example of the Royal,—but that they distinctly refer to page 34 of the Report as the cause of their alarm. Therein, they say, they find "expressions which may serve to imply that many members of their body have expressed opinions favourable to the removal" of the Society to "a building which it is in contemplation to erect at Kensington Gore." We

were, we confess, somewhat startled at this:—having read the Report with attention, and not having observed any such, to us, hopeful intentions expressed either on the part of the Societies or of the Commissioners. We, however, turned to page 34, and read it over once again by the light of these resolutions:—and still, we are as much in the dark as heretofore.

We find, that the Commissioners, in reference to this subject, advert to the extraordinary efforts made by the public to promote the interests of science and the arts, and the diffusion of scientific principles amongst those engaged in their application; and they state, that from an examination of the balance sheets of the different Societies, they have ascertained that the total annual sum thus contributed and expended in London alone exceeds 160,000*l.*,—and what we have again and again pointed out—that a great and disproportionate part of this enormous sum is expended in house-rent, taxes, and other like unavoidable charges, all in abatement of those useful purposes to which it might otherwise have been applied. Thus far, then, the Commissioners merely record facts known and notorious—at least to the readers of the *Athenæum*;—and when we first brought the Report under consideration [p. 1319], we only ventured to express a hope that the voice of the Commissioners would be more potential than ours had been in stimulating the members "to seek a remedy." A great deal of this expenditure, and still more of inefficiency, is obviously consequent on the isolation and separation of the Societies. The Societies themselves complain;—and the Commissioners tell us, that in 1847 "the Philosophical Club, a body consisting of eminent Fellows of the Royal Society, instituted inquiries through some of its members who also were members of other learned Societies, as to how far it would be agreeable to the latter to aid in procuring juxtaposition of the Societies of the metropolis. The replies received from the different Societies were on the whole favourable, but, from the difficulty of obtaining a site, the further consideration of the subject was postponed." [See *ante*, p. 1321.]

The inconvenience and expense of isolated action—the cabined and confined limits to which the Societies are restricted by their funds—are far more seriously felt by other Societies than by either the Royal or the Astronomical, which are so far singular and fortunate that they both have apartments without cost given by the Government. Yet, the Royal Society have recently made strong representations to the Government for additional accommodation,—stating that the rooms which they occupy are inadequate to hold their library;—a difficulty, they add, which is constantly increasing,—and even now, they say, it is found impossible to arrange their charts or books of a large size. Other and less favoured Societies—which do not live rent free—suffer of course much greater inconvenience:—and some are obliged to keep their books and maps in one place, and to hold their fortnightly meetings in another a mile distant. Not long since, the Council of the Society of Arts appointed a committee to ascertain if it would be possible to find a site on which to erect a building for the Society and such other Societies as might desire to unite with them; but, though the Committee were zealous and active, no spot could be heard of from Temple Bar to Regent Street, or in the neighbourhood of either, sufficient for the purpose without clearing the ground of existing houses; at a cost that made the attempt hopeless.

It was under these circumstances that the Commissioners made their Report, so far as it has any reference at all to this matter. They submitted, in justification of the course which they had pursued in vesting their funds in land, that by the further extension of the purchase by Government there might be provided the means of aggregating in one spot a gallery containing the national pictures, sculptures, and allied arts, a museum of practical art, a museum of manufactures and of machinery, and twenty other useful institutions; and that whenever the learned and scientific Societies should find the inconvenience and the cost of isolation intolerable, and should desire juxtaposition at some unavoidable sacrifice, they [the

Commissioners] hoped to be able to have a site to offer them on their newly-purchased estate.—This is the be-all and the end-all of the Report, so far as the Societies are concerned, and as we understand it. The advantages of juxtaposition—so long and perseveringly urged by ourselves—are at last admitted by all parties:—whether or not they would counterbalance the disadvantages of a removal to Kensington Gore is a question to be decided by the several Societies themselves. So little attempt is there on the part of the Commissioners to force or entice them, that we find no trace, either in page 34 or anywhere else, of an intention to "erect" a building for them. On the contrary, it is quite clear to us that all which the Commissioners contemplated offering is "a site"—the grand difficulty hitherto,—but as to the "building," the Societies must erect it for themselves.

The Council of the Astronomical Society further resolve that it would be impossible that "the working of the Society could be carried on at such a distance from the central parts of London," and Prof. Airy says, that "two-thirds of the London members reside to the east of Charing Cross." It follows, therefore, from these resolutions, that the Council are of opinion that isolation in the Strand is better than association at Kensington Gore,—if so, there is an end of the question so far as the Astronomers are concerned. But it does not follow that the Council will be of the same opinion, or the members be resident in the same locality, twenty years hence:—and this we conceive to be the case contemplated by the Commissioners. "Westward Ho!" has been an invariable law with every Society, and with London itself, for ages. The Royal, as we mentioned heretofore, first met at Gresham College in the Royal Exchange,—thence removed to Fleet Street,—and then, about a century since, to Somerset House. The Astronomical Society is but a juvenile. It had its antecedents, however;—and, curiously enough, a discussion is going on at this moment, in *Notes and Queries*, about some old Mathematical Society that used to meet at Wapping! Another association of celebrity in its day was, the Mathematical Society of Crispin Street, Spital Fields. Some seven years since (1845) we published a brief but not uninteresting account of this Society,—the parent home of the Doldrums and the Simpsons and others not unknown to fame. But mathematicians and astronomers travelled westward like ordinary mortals, until the most powerful of modern telescopes could not bring Crispin Street within the range of vision:—so, the Astronomical Society was established, and the Crispins, after an existence of 128 years, transferred "their library, memorials, and records" to the juvenile institution, on condition that they should be admitted Fellows [see *Athen.* No. 922]. It is probable that this influx, and a lingering memory of the old Society, may yet have its influence on the residences of the members of the Astronomical;—for assuredly all Societies which have only to consult the convenience of their members travel further and further westward, beyond that one single centre, as it is affirmed, of all useful action, the apartments granted by Government, free of cost, to the Royal and the Astronomical Societies. Some have gone further, some less far—some a mile, and others more,—but all westward, and all towards Kensington Gore. We remember, at the moment, the Horticultural, the Botanical, the College of Chemistry, the Institute of Architects, the Institute of Civil Engineers, the Linnean, the Zoological, the Agricultural, the Microscopical, the Entomological, the Geographical, the Statistical, the Asiatic, the British Institution, and the London Library. Let the astronomers and the philosophers wait another quarter of a century, and then say whether they are content with a central isolation.

MR. J. F. STEPHENS.

Entomologists, and especially those specially attached to the study of English insects, will learn with sorrow that Mr. James Francis Stephens, F.L.S., late President of the Entomological Society, died on the 22nd of December, at his house in Kennington, after eight or ten days' illness, of inflammation of the lungs.



Mr. Stephens was for many years a clerk in the Admiralty Office, in Somerset House:—having lately been superannuated. For the last half-century he has devoted the whole of his leisure to the study of Natural History;—and he had formed the largest and most complete collection of British Insects which had ever been collected together. Indeed, the extent and the beauty of its arrangement were the admiration of every foreign collector who saw it,—as such local collections are almost unknown on the Continent. This collection has for years been, in the most liberal manner, open one evening in the week (Wednesday) to any person who wished to consult it for scientific purposes;—and the very complete Entomological Library which Mr. Stephens had collected, was equally accessible.

In 1818, on the recommendation of Dr. Leach, and at the request of the Trustees, the Government gave Mr. Stephens permission to leave his office for a time and to assist Dr. Leach in the arrangement of the Insects in the British Museum Collection:—thus forming the commencement of the Collection of British Insects in that Institution.

Mr. Stephens was the author of—1. 'The Systematic Catalogue of British Insects,'—2. 'The Illustrations of British Entomology,'—3. 'A Manual of British Coleoptera,'—4. 'A Catalogue of British Lepidoptera in the Collections of the British Museum,' the last part of which was occupying his attention at the time of his death. He was also author of the 'Continuation of Shaw's Zoology' containing the Birds,—which first made the English naturalist acquainted with the modern system of classification now universally adopted.

Mr. Stephens was a most active collector in the field; and combined in an extraordinary degree the practical experiences of the field naturalist with the knowledge of the enlightened student and scientific reader.

#### MR. HILLIER'S 'KING CHARLES IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT.'

Mr. Hillier has been sufficiently ill advised to send us the following letter.—

"I think 'Peter Plain' might have better occupied his time, and you the space which was allotted to his letter in the *Athenæum* of Saturday last. In answering his attack on my observations respecting Col. Titus, I believe I cannot take a better course than return his questions, by asking what necessity there was for my alluding to Clutterbuck in the list of authorities rendered when I was under no obligation to him? and the reason why I was not is that—The most interesting of Clutterbuck's information was derived verbatim from Titus's own papers; and I having the same original materials, availed myself of them after the same fashion. 'Peter Plain's' reason for printing in parallel columns our two renderings of Gough's reminiscence I really cannot understand. Clutterbuck quoted Gough's paragraph to suit his purpose, and gave his authority. I did the same as pertinent to my subject, and gave mine. Does he mean to imply that, because the history of Hertfordshire contained this incident, I was precluded from using Camden, and obligated to take it second hand? Clutterbuck prints or engraves three of the King's Letters. I print them all and decipher them, a task Clutterbuck did not attempt:—will your correspondent undertake a similar one? These remarks I consider a sufficient answer to 'Peter Plain,' and they are the last I shall trouble you with on the subject. There is nothing without error, and why should I be an exception? Is 'Peter Plain' free from this failing? He cannot be, and I have no doubt has enough of his own to answer for without meddling with other persons; and I must remark, in conclusion, that the position of the *Athenæum's* first literary paper—should be well able to dispense with the communications of the most despicable of all seditious—anonymous writers. Yours, &c. GEORGE HILLIER." Brighton, Dec. 20th.

The question raised by "Peter Plain" [No. 1312, p. 1395] was, whether Mr. Hillier, having adopted a biographical sketch of Col. Titus which was written by Clutterbuck the historian of Hertfordshire, ought not to have acknowledged his obligation. In the letter now printed, Mr. Hillier asserts, that he is "under no obligation" to Clutterbuck. "I having," he says, "the same original materials, availed myself of them after the same fashion."—Let us see how this agrees with the facts.

Gough was shown—in the example quoted as a specimen of Mr. Hillier's manner in our last number—to have published a certain anecdote, which has been dealt with by both Clutterbuck and Hillier.

Clutterbuck added to the story,—illustrated it,—altered its language,—purposely omitted various

significant words which occur in it,—and, finally, concluded with an accurate reference to his authority.

Mr. Hillier has done precisely the same. He has added to Gough's story,—he has illustrated it,—he has altered its language,—he has omitted various significant words,—and he has concluded with a reference to Gough.

All this is similar to what occurs every day amongst historical writers dealing with the same subject. But not so the sequel. Mr. Hillier's additions are neither more nor less than precisely the same as Clutterbuck's,—his illustrations are precisely the same,—his alterations are the same,—his omissions are the same. Thus:—Gough in a particular passage writes of the "two gentlemen":—Clutterbuck alters it to "they,"—so does Mr. Hillier. Gough states they mounted their horses "that night":—Clutterbuck omits "that night,"—so does Mr. Hillier. Gough says a certain speech was "very concise":—Clutterbuck omits the words,—so does Mr. Hillier. Gough tells us that Cromwell "sent a trusty officer":—Clutterbuck, more emphatically, "he sent an officer on whose fidelity and attachment he placed great confidence,"—Mr. Hillier, "he sent an officer in whose attachment and fidelity he placed great confidence." Gough remarks, that this officer "directly" returned and called in his soldiers:—Clutterbuck alters "directly" into "then,"—so does Mr. Hillier. Gough says, they "made the best of their way to General Monk":—Clutterbuck states, they "joined General Monk,"—so does Mr. Hillier. Gough does not say when 'Killing no Murder' was published:—Clutterbuck gives the date 1657,—so does Mr. Hillier. Gough asserts that in that book, it "was plainly shown that one who had violated all laws could derive protection from no law":—Clutterbuck softens this into "endeavoured to prove that the killing of the Protector would be both a lawful and meritorious act,"—Mr. Hillier has, "endeavoured to prove that killing the Protector would be both a legal and meritorious act."—The very minuteness of some of these points of common variation from Clutterbuck and resemblance to each other are even more conclusive as to Mr. Hillier's actual "materials" than if the passages had been more significant.

Mr. Hillier, then, it will be seen, is very different from Gough,—but with some few verbal transpositions and errors he is identically the same as Clutterbuck. And this similarity to Clutterbuck is not confined, as we are told by "Peter Plain," to the passage quoted as an example in our last, but runs throughout the biography of Titus—in passages where there is no Gough, nor anything in the now published documents to fall back upon, nothing but the research and industry of Clutterbuck.

With these things staring him in the face, Mr. Hillier denies all obligation to Clutterbuck,—proffers that he "really cannot understand" why what he terms the "two renderings of Gough's reminiscence" should have been printed in parallel columns,—and endeavours to outface his questioner with rash assertions which are contradicted by all the established facts.

Mr. Hillier seems to have as much to learn of the morals of literature as he has of the manners of literary men.

#### OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Report of the Literary Fund for the current year has just made its appearance. To refer in any way to a document so unsatisfactory is an unpleasant task:—but it is likewise a duty which we must not evade. This institution is, in a certain sense, the only organization possessed by the literary body in London—very often it is the only available resource for the poor scholar in his time of sorest trial,—and our readers have a right to know from us the way in which the interests of literature and of its professors are cared for by those who have this Fund in charge. If a plain statement of the account be painful to any one, it is not our fault.—Passing by the festal speeches, the after-dinner compliments and congratulations, which occupy so large a share of this Report, as of little interest to the truly earnest men who in their hearts wish well to letters,—we

come upon the duly attested Auditors' Report. Two circumstances strike the eye on running down this page of numerals:—(1) the smallness of the amount of money collected as compared with the cost of its collection,—and (2) the want of reasonable proportion between the amount distributed and the expense of its distribution. The amount of money collected during the year—which is, of course, exclusive of the permanent income—is set down at 998l. 4s. The particulars of this sum are not stated; but as it is well known that the Queen's annual donation of 100 guineas, and the important subscriptions of the foreign ministers and of our own literary peers and eminent men of letters, are all collected at the expense of a penny letter, we may assume that at least half the money is, or might be, collected almost free of cost to the institution. If so, it appears that, as it is now managed, the getting-together of a sum under 500l. costs an expensive dinner, and a considerable amount besides. What the yearly dinner actually costs, is not here reported; but as there were 131 diners at the last at a guinea each—eighteen stewards present, paying two guineas each extra,—twenty-two stewards absent, who paid three guineas each,—making in all 211 guineas, or 211l. 11s.—and as there is a loss on the dinner charged against the fund of 204l. 9s.—if our reckoning is right, the dinner must have cost upwards of 240l. Can any one assert that this expense is necessary? Are the managers sure that they get as much from the dinner as is spent on the dinner? Then, as to the disbursements of the year:—we find that 1,635l. has been given away, and that the charge for so giving it has been no less than 601l. 9s. The evil is less this year than it was last; but even with the improvement, what is the conclusion to which these facts and figures lead? All the great items of expenditure—the dinner, rent of premises, salaries, stationery, and so forth—may be fairly set down as *expenses of collection*: the transmission by post of fifty cheques to distressed scholars is certainly not a very costly part of the business. Neither need it cost much to receive a dividend across the bank counter. When then? Why this?—it appears, that to collect what we have assumed to be about 500l., an expense is incurred of upwards of 600l. for "office expenses," and upwards of 240l. are laid out on "a dinner"—in all more than 840l. Absurd as this supposition may seem, we have no doubt that the *fact* is even more so. We have assumed for the sake of argument, that without the 840l. sunk, the 500l. could not be obtained:—but we are convinced that such is not the case. Every man who can read figures must see that when he sends money to the Literary Fund no fair proportion of it can ever reach the persons in whose favour it may be subscribed.—Thus the springs of charity are dried up. Even the wealthiest may fairly object to support an institution which is not true to its mission; and as to literary men, it is unreasonable to expect them to sustain in any great degree a fund so largely drawn upon by "office expenses" and by the losses of an annual dinner.

The gentleman who is to replace Mr. Empson in the editorship of the *Edinburgh Review* is, Mr. George Cornwall Lewis,—long the Whig financial secretary at the Treasury,—and on three occasions the unsuccessful candidate for election into the present Parliament. Mr. Lewis is favourably known as an author,—is distinguished for his knowledge of political economy,—and though not himself a contributor to the higher classes of literature, is said to appreciate literature in all its branches with a hearty and discriminating relish. In his hands, therefore, the *Edinburgh* may probably again become more a representation of general literature than it was under Mr. Empson's management.

The speeches in Parliament of the late Duke of Wellington are, we are informed, about to be collected and published uniformly with the far-famed Wellington Despatches. The collection was commenced by the late Colonel Gurwood,—continued by the Colonel's widow,—and actually corrected in many places by the Duke himself. The Speeches will appear with the imprint of Albemarle Street, and the imprimatur of the present Duke.

The present Duke will, it is said, throw



Apsley House open to the public on certain days, and under certain regulations necessary for the security of the property and the comfort of visitors. Apsley House contains some fine works of Art—a first-rate Correggio—good examples of Velasquez,—and throughout seems to represent the peculiar likings of the hero. Napoleon is very prominent, and always honourably so. Here we shall see the Duke's orders—so charmingly arranged by Mr. Garrard at his house in Panton Street!—where we had the pleasure of examining them,—lingering with eyes historically pleased at the diamond George originally given by Queen Anne to the great Duke of Marlborough on the victory at Blenheim—obtained, no one knows how, by George the Fourth when Prince Regent—and given by the Prince to the Duke of Wellington on the victory at Waterloo!

Prof. Sedgwick has rendered to the Mechanics' Institution at Leeds an important service, by delivering there an interesting and instructive lecture on Glacial Phenomena, in connexion with erratic blocks of transport. Acting on Sir C. Lyell's principle of assuming none but known agencies and laws, says a correspondent from that town, he endeavoured to account for the position of those vast angular blocks of stone which are often found on the tops of mountains and high hills. The causes which he thought sufficient to account for the phenomenon were,—a change of climate, which, he showed, depends on a combination of several conditions liable to alteration,—a change of level, such as the commonest geological facts prove to have taken place,—the various operations observed to be going on in connexion with glaciers,—the drifting of icebergs, which have been seen conveying what appeared to be ships,—and the equatorial currents. The Professor concluded with some excellent remarks on the humanizing and elevating influence of the study of nature. A few such lectures would serve to render Mechanics' Institutes more worthy of being regarded as a means of popular education.—Prof. Sedgwick also delivered a lecture to the members of the Leeds Philosophical Society, on the Comparative Anatomy of the Megatherium, the Mylodon, and other Fossil Edentata.

The Committee of the Dublin Exhibition have resolved to set apart a certain space in their temporary building for a department of Irish Antiquities—after the fashion set at Belfast during the past summer. Dublin, as the capital, is, of course, a more convenient place in which to assemble the historical relics of the island,—and the impetus lately given to the study of Irish antiquities by the publication of the Brehon Laws is likely to receive a new and powerful impulse from the contemplated gathering of next year.

A meeting has been held in Kilkenny for the purpose of getting up a monument to the memory of John Banim, the well-known Irish novelist. A committee, with the Marquis of Ormonde at its head, was appointed to carry out the object.

The Electric Telegraph marches apace over continental Europe;—and so complete is now the magic network of intellectual nerves, that for all purposes of communication it may be said that there is no longer any British Channel. From the mountain cities of Transylvania to the marshes of Pomerania there is scarcely a town of any literary or commercial importance not connected by the metallic pulses terminating at Charing Cross. These lines cross over rivers and traverse vast mountain regions—as, for example, the Trieste wire along the alpine roads of Illyria—to touch the sea. The Baltic, the Black Sea, the Bay of Biscay, are all now brought into immediate contact with each other. A word may be shot by lightning from the Gulf of Venice to the Irish Sea. Holland—until now almost outside the European system—having neither railway nor telegraphic communication with surrounding countries—has just been brought, as it were, into the human family: and Amsterdam, Haarlem, the Hague, Leyden, Rotterdam, Dordrecht, and Breda, are but as links in the great chain of European confraternity.—It may be useful to some of our readers if, in addition to the Dutch towns here named, we put before them in alphabetical order the first-class towns with which

the London lines are now in actual communication. The list, exclusive of small places, is as follows:—Agram, Aix-la-Chapelle, Amiens, Antwerp, Augsburg, Baden, Berlin, Bonn, Bordeaux, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Bremen, Breslau, Bruges, Brunswick, Brussels, Calais, Cassel, Coblenz, Cologne, Cracow, Dantzic, Dieppe, Dijon, Dresden, Dunkirk, Düsseldorf, Florence, Frankfurt-on-Maine, Friburg, Ghent, Gotha, Hamburg, Hanover, Havre, Kehl-Strasbourg, Königsburg, Leghorn, Leipzig, Lemberg, Lisle, Lucra, Lyons, Metz, Magdeburg, Malines, Mannheim, Mantua, Mayence, Milan, Munich, Modena, Nantes, Nuremberg, Ostend, Padua, Paris, Pesth-Budd, Posen, Prague, Presburg, Parma, Rouen, St. Omer, Stettin, Stuttgart, Strasbourg, Trieste, Venice, Verona, Vienna, Weimar.

One of the last acts of the late Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the Earl of Eglinton, before laying down his high trust was, it is said, to offer the honour of Knighthood to Mr. William Dargan—the spirited originator and munificent supporter of the Dublin Industrial Exhibition. The Irish papers say, that Mr. Dargan has declined the proffered honour.

There is no pause to that grateful action of the national heart which seeks to heap new and ever multiplying honours on the name of Wellington. In order that he may aid in his degree to

Preserve a broad approach of fame  
And ever ringing avenues of song.

Prince Albert has given out Walmer Castle as the prize subject of an English poem to the undergraduates of Cambridge for next year—the poem to be not more than 200 lines in length.

Prof. Petermann, as we hear from Berlin, is at present engaged at Damascus in copying, with the aid of other learned men, a Syriac New Testament of the sixth century, which, it is said, there is reason to believe was itself translated verbally from one of the earliest and most authentic Greek manuscripts.

Even in these days of railroads and electric telegraphs, literary intelligence travels hitherward from Russia at a very tortoise-like pace. Not until now, therefore, have we learnt that Russia has lost in the person of Nikolai Vassilivitch Gogol one of its most popular novel-writers. He died last March at Moscow.

French papers announce that M. Victor Langlois, absent on a voyage of archeological discovery in Asia Minor, has discovered the tomb of the ancient poet and astronomer Aratus at Pompeiopolis,—and a considerable number of Greek and Armenian inscriptions, which those journals aver will be of great archeological value.

At the annual distribution of prizes at the French Academy of Sciences on Tuesday, the Lalande prize for astronomy was divided between Mr. Hind of London, M. Gasparis of Naples, M. Luther of Blik, near Düsseldorf, M. Chacornac of Marseilles and M. Hermann Goldschmidt of Paris.—The prize for experimental physiology was awarded to Dr. Budge, an English physician, and Prof. Wallon, of Bonn, for discoveries establishing with certainty certain facts of a nature to throw light on the functions of the ganglionic system.

A notable series of papers on education is in progress of publication in the *Journal de l'Empire*. The writer, M. Eugène Rendu, has travelled through England, Germany, and America with a special view to observation and comparison of the several systems of instruction—public and private—obtaining in these countries,—and he has now returned to lay the results of his inquiries before the Paris public. The question discussed is, the vexed one of gratuitous and obligatory education of the children of such parents as either cannot or will not charge themselves with the responsibility. M. Rendu pronounces strongly in favour of compulsory education for this class. He establishes the point, that primary education should be universal,—and he then argues the next question in the series with a copious and conclusive logic. He shows that the alleged difficulty of ascertaining when and where the interference of society with family arrangements should begin and end is rather speculative than practical,—referring to the working of the Prussian and Saxon systems in proof of

the soundness of his inference. M. Rendu's views, so far as they regard the matter strictly in hand, seem clear, sound, and well considered.—It is curious that the organs of legitimist opinions, so humble in the presence of the power that is symbolized by the sword, should affect to treat with contempt any question that is enforced by argument only. The *Assemblée* declares itself insulted by such a proposition. It will not, it says, debate such a question; it will only protest against it as rank Socialism.—We suppose the *Assemblée* must be allowed the merit of consistency: it would appear to be as true now as it was thirty-five years ago, that the men who share its opinions have learned nothing and forgotten nothing.

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND DRAWINGS, comprising choice Specimens by leading Artists, is NOW OPEN, at the GALLERY, No. 121, Pall Mall, opposite the Open House Colonnade, from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Gallery, 12s. Pall Mall. JOHN BRITTEN, Sec.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—Three Exhibitions daily.—The Diorama illustrating the WELLINGTON CAMPAIGNS with the additional Pictures—WALMER CASTLE, the DUKES PALACE, LIVING IN STATE, FUNERAL PROCESSION, and INTERIOR OF ST. PAUL'S, with Vocal and Instrumental Music, is now exhibiting daily during the Holidays, at Twelve, Three and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s. 2s. 6d. and 1s. ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.

THE GOLD FIELDS OF AUSTRALIA.—This NEW MOVING PANORAMA, Painted from Sketches made upon the spot, by J. S. PAOY, Member of the New Society of Painters in Water Colours, is EXHIBITED daily at 20, Regent Street, near the Polytechnic. Among the principal Scenes are Plymouth Sound—Madeira—Cape of Good Hope—South Sea Whale Fishing—Melbourne—Geelong—The Road to the Digging Mount Alexander—Sydney—The Blue Mountains—Summer Creek—Ophir—Enslavement of Gold Diggers by Moonlight.—Admission, 1s.; Central Seats, 2s.; Gallery, 6d. At Three and Eight o'clock.—The Descriptive Lecture is given by Mr. Frost.

WILL SHORTLY CLOSE.—BARTLETT'S GREAT DIORAMA OF JERUSALEM and the HOLY LAND. Painted under the direction of Mr. W. Beverly, with grand sacred vocal music by a full choir, conducted by Mr. J. H. Tully, daily at Three and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d.—St. George's Gallery, Hyde Park Corner.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S ASCENT OF MONT BLANC every evening at 8 o'clock.—Stalls, 3s. (which can be secured at the Box Office every day from 11 till 4); Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—A Morning Performance every Tuesday and Saturday, and during the Christmas week every day, at 3 o'clock.—EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly.

#### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

PATRON—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.  
ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—ENTIRELY NEW EXHIBITION.—AN OPTICAL AND MUSICAL ILLUSTRATION OF A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, the Works from Shakespeare, the Music by Horn, Stevens, Bishop, the Book-land, and Dr. Cooke, daily, at a Quarter-past Four, and every Evening, except Saturday, at Half-past Nine.—LECTURES, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the Endless AMUSEMENTS OF CHEMISTRY, adapted to a Juvenile Audience.—By Dr. Bachmann, on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RECREATION.—By M. Crispe, on BALLOONING and the PROSPECTS OF AERIAL NAVIGATION, illustrated by a beautiful Model of POITIEVIN PARACHUTE, GREEN'S GUIDE-ROPE, DIAGRAMS, &c. &c. DISSOLVING VIEWS, including Day and Night Views of WALMER CASTLE, WALMER CHURCH, &c.—Admission, 1s. Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.

#### SCIENTIFIC

##### SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 13.—Sir R. I. Murchison, President, in the chair.—Capt. H. Strachey, L. Powell, and W. Macleod, Esqrs., were elected Fellows.—The papers read were—by Capt. Butakof, of the Imperial Russian Navy, 'On his late Survey of the Sea of Aral,'—and one by Capt. H. Strachey, 'On the Geographical Results of his Expedition into Western Tibet,'—for which this year the Victoria gold medal was awarded to him by the Society.—The following is an abstract of Capt. Strachey's paper.—West Nari, which is the western extremity of all Tibet, comprising the Chinese province of Narihorum and the principalities of Ladak and Balti, is situated on the southern margin of the South Asiatic, or Turkish watershed, dividing the Turkish or Central Asian from the Indian basin of drainage, and separated from India Proper by the Indian watershed which runs along the track of the Himalays and collects the intermediate Tibetan drainage into the heads of one or two of the chief Indian rivers. The table-land of West Nari has a length of 600 miles S.E. and N.N.W., and a mean breadth of 90,000 square miles between the two watersheds of 150,—making an area of 90,000 square miles. The surface, though deeply corrugated with mountains and valleys in detail, is laid out almost horizontally in its general relief, at a mean elevation of nearly three miles; the highest summits rising four or five, whilst the lowest depressions are still from one to two miles above the sea-level. The accumulation of old alluvial de-

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points in the hollows of the mountains, up to heights of 16,000 feet or more, form the wide open valleys or plains of the pastoral uplands, chiefly in the eastern province of Narikhorsum, and their destruction (or absence) the deep and narrow valleys of the agricultural lowlands, chiefly in Ladak and Balti, below 14,000 feet. The prevailing directions of the main mountain-ranges is almost S.S.E. and N.N.W.; the average height of their summits 20,000 feet; of their passes, 18,000 to 19,000; and the highest measured peaks are from 22,000 to 25,500. The valleys are for the most part very narrow, especially in the lowlands, where they hardly average above one-fourth of a mile in breadth; a few of the widest being from one to three miles, with occasional expansions to five or six, and some of the narrowest not a furlong. The upland valleys are often more open; but among these even wide expanded plains are the exception to the rule. The bottoms have every variety of elevation from 4,500 feet, which is the lowest point of the gorge by which the Indus leaves Tibet, to 16,000 feet, where they begin to emerge into mere mountain ravines: their longer slopes are very moderate, averaging about thirty feet per mile in the lowlands, and less in the uplands. The most remarkable of all the valleys, and an exception to the ordinary formation, is Gunge, in the S.W. of Narikhorsum, where the usual dense mass of mountain gives place to a great alluvial plateau from 90 to 120 miles long, and 15 to 60 broad, making a triangular area of 4,500 square miles, elevated from 15,000 to 16,000 feet. But the continuity of the plain is destroyed by a number of large ravines which run from the foot of the surrounding mountains to join the great central ravine of the Sutlej, with a depth of 2,000 and 3,000 feet; and the ravine of the Sutlej itself probably attains the depth of a vertical mile at its lower end. The drainage of the West Nari is divided between the Sutlej and Indus, the basin of the former occupying almost 17,000 square miles in the southern quarter, and the latter as much of the rest as is known to us. The longest trunk of the Tibetan Indus, which runs all through the middle of the country, measured from its lowest Tibetan point, at the west end of the Balti, is probably 700 miles; of which the lower 500 has been explored and mapped throughout, the next 100 well ascertained, and the remainder is conjectural: but the source of the greatest volume lies in the head of the river of Zangakar in South Ladak, only 450 miles from the lowest Tibetan point, or but two-thirds of the longest course. The furthest active sources of the Sutlej are about 250 miles from the lowest Tibetan point of the river, where it enters Upper Kunawr, and thus includes 50 miles of intermittent drainage through the fresh-water lakes of Kangri; but the furthest head of the basin is more than 300 miles distant, probably near the furthest source of the Indus,—the drainage of the uppermost part stagnating in a salt lake. These rivers are of small volume compared with those on the Indian side of the Himalaya, and they are too shallow or rapid for any navigation. The Indus ceases to be fordable below the conflux of the river from Zangakar; the waterway of its bridges seldom exceeds 100 feet; its fall averages 20 or 25 feet per mile through Ladak and Balti, and much less in Narikhorsum. Not less than 12,000 square miles of West Nari is drained by lakes,—in connexion, however, with the basins of the rivers,—those with an active effluence being fresh-water, and those without it salt. The chief fresh-water lakes are Mapham and Langah, or Manasowrar and Rakas Tal, at a height of 15,200 feet in Kangri, in the S.E. of Narikhorsum: the two are close together, with a channel of effluence from the former to the latter lake, and an intermittent discharge through a marshy hollow from the latter into the head of the Sutlej; each of them has an area of 150 square miles, and they drain together a basin of 4,000 or 5,000 square miles. The largest salt-water lake is the Pangong, which draws a basin of 6,000 or 7,000 square miles in Rudak, in the north-west of Narikhorsum (and the adjoining parts of Ladak). The lake itself, at a height of 14,000 feet, has an area of some 300 square miles, being probably 100 miles long, but

only 3 or 4 wide: it has several effluents of some volume in summer, but no effluence, being separated from a feeder of the northern Indus by a low valley watershed of 100 vertical feet or so. Its water is a strong solution of a bitter salt,—probably Epsom salts. Glaciers are not so common on the Tibetan table-land as in the Indian Himalaya; but they occur on the Turkish watershed, in the north of Ladak and Balti, and some of these at the head of the northern Indus are liable to periodical debades, which cause floods that devastate the valleys of that river through a course of 300 miles. One of these floods, in 1835, destroyed whole villages; rising to a height of ten feet where the valley was five or six miles wide, and travelling at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour, 200 miles below its origin. The climate of West Nari, between latitude 30° and 36°, approximates in temperature to that of Northern Europe between 55° and 70°. The town of Le, at a height of 12,000 feet, in lat. 34°, which may be taken as an average of the inhabited valleys, has a mean temperature of, perhaps, 15° for the coldest month, 60° for the warmest, and 38° for the whole year,—the extreme winter minimum being below zero, and the summer maximum about 70°. At this place the earth is not frozen below the surface even in the middle of winter. At a height of 15,000 feet, it appears to freeze every night of the year. The force of the sun's rays is very great; the thermometer exposed thereto having been seen up to 140°, and 80° above the temperature of the air in the shade. The climate is excessively dry, rain not falling at all in any appreciable quantity, and the snow amounting only to twenty inches in the year,—many of the falls being scarcely more than the hoar-frosts of moister climates, and none exceeding four inches in twelve hours. The snow-line attains an extreme height of nearly 20,000 feet in the central and northern parts of the table-land, but on the Indian watershed descends to about 18,000 feet.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 15.—W. Hopkins, Esq., President, in the chair.—Dr. F. W. S. Peckman, and J. A. Morgan, Esq., were elected Fellows.—The following communication was read:—'On Changes of the Sea Level effected by existing Physical Causes during Stated Periods of Time,' by A. Tylor, Esq.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 9.—Lord Mahon, President, in the chair.—Sir J. Boileau, Mr. Jardine, and Mr. Richardson were elected members.—The Earl of Verulam exhibited a large glass vase, of the pitcher-shape, half full of calcined human bones, which had been dug up on one of his Lordship's estates in Essex.—The Secretary read a paper on the Cave of Lady Rosen, as it has been called, near Royston; the object of which was principally to show, that it had been used as a burial place at distinct periods, beginning, perhaps, at the earliest date at which any monument of the kind exists. The paper was illustrated by drawings, which explained the peculiar shape and character of the excavation, and the manner in which urns, &c., had been deposited in it.

Dec. 16.—Lord Mahon, President, in the chair.—Sixteen new Fellows were added to the list of the Society:—viz., Lord Henneker, Mr. M. A. Lower, Col. C. S. Cowell, Dr. C. Mackay, Dr. Thurnham, Messrs. R. Frankum, F. H. Dickenson, W. H. Carpenter, W. Kell, W. H. Longstaff, and J. Clarke, the Rev. J. C. Bruce, Messrs. J. Crossley, J. Fenwick, W. Smith, and J. Evans. Several others were proposed:—and it deserves remark, that when these members shall have been admitted, under the new law applicable to subscriptions, the amount thus paid will considerably exceed the total loss occasioned by the reduction of the fees. So far, therefore, the recent change will have more than accomplished the purpose for which it was recommended,—and this may serve to indicate how many learned and valuable members have been excluded merely by the large sum required for entrance from the year 1807 to the year 1853. The triumph of the principles advocated by the Treasurer could not have been more immediate and complete. A new era of prosperity and of usefulness appears to await the

Society; and when the statutes shall have been revised by the Committee formally appointed this evening (the names of the individuals composing which we have already given), a solid basis for future improvement will, we trust, have been established.—The Bishop of Oxford sent for exhibition two small glass vases, of a somewhat singular form, not long since dug up near Cuddeon.—Mr. Lemon announced, that Mr. Salt had responded to the invitation read from the Chair at the late meetings by presenting the library with two entire volumes of Proclamations, beginning exactly where the magnificent series already in the hands of the Society leave off, so as to complete it to the period when these documents, instead of being printed as broadsides, were published in the London Gazette. Mr. Lemon exhibited a specimen of the manner in which he is mounting all the Proclamations of the Society, in order to preserve them from the possibility of injury. Mr. Secretary Walpole has contributed forty Proclamations, which are duplicates in the State Paper Office, and are wanting in the collection of the Society:—for these the Society had exchanged its own duplicates.—A portion of a paper by Mr. J. H. Parker (accompanied by beautiful drawings) on the Churches of France was read. The author thoroughly understands his subject; and made the journey, accompanied by an artist, expressly for the purpose of accumulating materials. The rest of the communication, which entered into curious and interesting details, especially regarding the Byzantine edifices of Angoulême, was deferred until the next meeting,—which, owing to the Christmas vacation, does not take place till the 13th of January.

STATISTICAL.—Dec. 20.—Lord Overstone, President, in the chair.—Lord A. Churchill and six others were elected Fellows.—Dr. Guy read a paper 'On the Relation of the Price of Wheat to the Revenue.' The object was, to test the soundness of the theory which closely connects the price of wheat and the state of the revenue as cause and effect. The author having been induced to investigate the subject by the strong opinion expressed by the late Mr. Porter in favour of a close dependence of the revenue on the price of wheat—an opinion from which some facts that had come under his (Dr. Guy's) notice had led him to dissent. The paper was illustrated by tables.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 20.—R. Brown, Esq., in the chair.—The Secretary read some remarks on the Vegetation of the Districts surrounding Lake Tonoue, from a letter addressed to R. Kippist, Esq., curator of the Society, by Dr. Ferdinand Müller, of Adelaide, in South Australia. The district immediately surrounding the lake was represented as sterile and uninviting. On the salt plains near the lake, species of the European genera *Blitum cotriplex* and others were observed. The hills surrounding the lake did not present the aspect of tropical or northern forest vegetation. Along the course of the river a rich vegetation was observed,—the most striking feature of which was, the resemblance of the genera to those found in Europe and in Asia. The author concluded by stating, that his enumeration of the plants found in this district proved that the Flora of Northern Australia was not so barren as was represented by Mr. Brown.—The President vindicated his statement with regard to the general characteristics of the Flora of the North of Australia. Dr. Müller's remarks confirmed his observations—as the vegetation which he had described was clearly exceptional. Probably the spot was an isolated one formed by an ancient lagoon.

ETHNOLOGICAL.—Dec. 8.—W. Spence, Esq., in the chair.—W. Glasse, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—A paper 'On the Phonology and Orthography of the Zoölic and kindred Dialects in Southern Africa,' by the Rev. Dr. J. Adamson, of Cape Town, was read. After giving the alphabet of the Zoölic language, and referring to the character and sounds of the various letters of which it is composed, the vowels, consonants, and diphthongs, the author of the paper proceeded to describe that peculiarity of the lan-



guage of Southern Africa to which the term *click* has been given.—“The *clicks*, *clucks*, or *clacks* are a kind of sound unknown as a part of language except in Southern Africa, and of such a peculiar nature that a foreigner finds it difficult to make or describe them.” The author states the clicks may be divided into three general classes, according to the organs chiefly employed in making them: thus we have the *dental*, the *palatal*, and the *lateral* click. 1. The *dental click* is made by placing the tongue firmly upon the front teeth, and withdrawing it suddenly with a suction. 2. The *palatal click* is so called from its being made by pressing the tongue closely upon the roof of the mouth, and withdrawing it suddenly, so as to produce a sharp quick noise, a *smack*, or *clack*. 3. The *lateral click* is so called from its being made by the tongue in conjunction with the double teeth. Each of these classes of clicks has at least three slight modifications, which the author says may be termed the *nasal*, the *guttural*, and the *naso-guttural click*; these must be regarded as merely slight varieties of the three chief simple clicks.—A most lively and animated discussion followed the reading of Dr. Adamson's paper, in which many of the Fellows of the Society and visitors present took part.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 21.—J. M. Rendel, Esq., President, in the chair.—This was the Annual General Meeting. The medals and premiums which had been awarded were presented. The Report, amongst other things, attributed the present extraordinary activity in public works and private enterprises, in a great degree, to the discovery of those auriferous deposits of the other hemisphere, which had been, apparently, beneficently designed to bring into active utility the humbler, but more permanently useful minerals of the parent country. The following premiums were presented:—Telford medals to Capt. Mark Huish, Col. Colt, Messrs. Braithwaite Poole, Fred. Richard Window, Charles Coles Adley, Eugene Bourdon (Paris), Pierre Hyppolyte Boutigny (d'Evreux), and George Frederick White. Council premiums of books to Messrs. John Baldry Redman (for the third time), William Thomas Doyne, William Bindon Blood, George Donaldson, Christopher Bagot Lane, and William Bridges Adams. The condition and progress of the Institution were described as most satisfactory, the expenses diminishing, so as to enable more volumes to be published, and new members increasing fast—the number of members of all classes being now 746. Memoirs were read of Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington, Major-Gen. Colby, and John George Children, Hon. Members; Messrs. John Barnes, David Bremner, Robert Brunton, William Tierney Clark, Frank Foster, Thomas Grainger, and Walter Hunter, Members; Sir John Josiah Guest, Bart., M.P., John Sylvester, and Henry Vint, Associates; and Henry Charles Rawnley, Graduate. The following Members were declared to form the Council for the ensuing year:—J. M. Rendel, President; I. K. Brunel, J. Locke, J. Simpson, and R. Stephenson, Vice-Presidents; G. P. Bidder, J. Cubitt, J. E. Errington, J. Fowler, C. H. Gregory, J. Hawkshaw, J. R. McClean, C. May, J. Penn, and J. Scott Russell, Members; and T. Brassey and T. R. Crampton, Associates.

STRO-EGYPTIAN.—Dec. 14.—Dr. Lee in the chair.—“Some Inscriptions on Bricks from Koyunjik,” by Dr. Grotefend, translated by the Rev. G. C. Renouard. The inscriptions are in the work of Mr. Layard published by the Trustees of the British Museum. Dr. Grotefend says, that those who refer the original inscription to Sennacherib will believe that by Nergal Sharezer his murderer is signified; but seeing that in the word Framatarakh a Median title with a Babylonian formative syllable is applied to him, he thinks he must be identified with the Prophet Daniel's Darius the Mede.—“On some Representations of Foreigners in Ancient Egyptian Tombs,” by Miss Fanny Corbux. Miss Corbux exhibited drawings of the principal figures painted in the tombs of Seti-Menephthah I. and Rameses III.; regarding these subjects not as an ethnographical classification of the human race, as commonly conjectured,—but as

strictly commemorative, like the historical temple sculptures. The various people whom the Theban king claimed as vassals are tendering their homage in his tomb. The Egyptian race leads the procession; the nations acquired by conquests follow. The latter are the same in costume and feature as those represented in the memorials of conquest: but bear a descriptive epithet instead of their local names:—1. The aboriginal blacks of African Ethiopia or Cush (Kesh-Kesh) are here called “Nehasu,” or *rebellious race*. 2. The Rephaim of Palestine are here called “Temahu,” or *Northern race*; the particular tribe chosen as type of the nation being the Anakim. 3. The Aramites are here called “Shemu,” or *Shemite race*,—among whom the Edomite colonists of the Horite valley are also included. In support of these positions, Miss Corbux referred to the drawings showing the costumes of the two latter people, taken from the historical sculptures, where the names of their lands are given, and all of which she had identified. She concluded by suggesting that the well-known subject in the tombs of Beni Hassan—an embassy of thirty-seven foreigners headed by their Hyk or chief—which was once thought to represent the arrival of the Jews, might present an early type of the Rephaim nation, prior to their establishment in Egypt—prior, perhaps, to their subdivisions into the tribes mentioned in Deut. ii. The only ground for this suggestion lay in the identity of the main features of costume and countenance of these foreigners with those of the monumental Rephaim,—viz., the characteristic shape of their mantles, their angular profiles, and the custom of shaving away the sides of their beards.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.  
Mon. Institute of Actuaries, 7.—“On the objectionable character of certain Methods of determining and dividing Surplus in Life Assurance Companies,” by C. Jellicoe, Esq., V.P.  
Wed. Microscopical, 8.  
Thurs. London Institution, 7.—Physical Geography.

## FINE ARTS

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

#### Portraits of the Duke of Wellington.

It is the fate of all public men to be victims of portraiture,—but that fate would not be so hard to bear if one absolute type were the result of the artist's multitudinous efforts. In the case of the Duke of Wellington “their name is Legion;” some representing him in the prime of manhood, others in the “*mezzo cammin della vita*,”—some under his most familiar aspect towards the decline of his long and glorious life, others when his great career was all but over. There were certain of the Duke's features so positive, that every attempted portrait had something in it that was like,—though of the many prints in circulation at this moment a large proportion are little better than caricatures. Take, for instance, the portrait representing him at the age of thirty-six,—it lies before us now—published on the same sheet with that of Nelson, by Messrs. Rosenberg & Puzey of the Strand. This, it is true, is only an *ad captandum* lithograph,—a sort of bait for the country cousins who came to the funeral,—but it shows what may, but ought not to be done in the way of portraiture.—A good profile likeness, but somewhat too slight in the character of the engraving, forms the academic portrait of the Duke of which Mr. G. E. Finden is the artist and Messrs. Ackermann of the Strand are the publishers. The Duke, in his official costume as Chancellor of the University of Oxford, is seated in a chair of state, listening, apparently, to some address. The pose is natural,—and his attention seems given to the subject before him; the lineaments are well cut and expressive.—But the finest recent portrait is that published by Messrs. Hering & Remington, of Regent Street. It is a half-length, after Sir Thomas Lawrence,—painted somewhere about the Duke's fiftieth year:—and the idealism which characterizes the original picture has been very happily preserved in this engraving.

*The Sketcher's Manual; or, the whole Art of Picture Making reduced to the simplest Principles: by which Amateurs may instruct themselves without the aid of a Master.* By Frank Howard. This is a new edition of a small work already popular. The definitions are clear, and the mode of

instruction is simple and intelligible. That the book should perform all that is promised in the title-page, it is, perhaps, too much to expect:—nor has Mr. Howard quite kept to his text,—for, in his concluding remarks he tells us that “Colour has been treated in a separate work.” The “whole art of picture making” is not, therefore, contained in this little volume:—but what the author has given us is to the purpose.

*Directions for Introducing the First Steps of Elementary Drawing in Schools, and among Workmen.* By the Author of ‘Drawing for Young Children,’ &c.

This work—which, we learn from the title-page, has been prepared and published at the request of the Council of the Society of Arts—appears to be of a kind well adapted to answer the end proposed. Assuming as an indisputable basis, that the manner in which Drawing is taught in the majority of schools in the middle and higher classes is, in its effects on Art, injurious rather than beneficial,—the author proceeds to indicate how Art may best be promoted amongst the people—what are its wants and its applicabilities—and what the processes that shall convey the most useful mode of instruction. To imitate the practice which has so long prevailed on the Continent of establishing public museums, galleries and gardens, which would serve as so many schools of Art, he considers the first desideratum towards rendering Art popular. He next desires the establishment of special schools, with appropriate hours for drawing, adapted to the use of children above nine years of age, artisans and workmen,—believing that rough elementary drawing may be made practicable in these schools. How he would enable a child to comprehend a rude outline drawing, he thus explains:—

“The rudest outline of a simple familiar object requires that the pupil shall have examined that object attentively in all its parts, and in their relative size, connexion, and position. An object so carefully examined is not readily forgotten; and a course of such careful examinations and recordings of all that is around him, gives the pupil the power and habit of seeing correctly. Unless he sees correctly, he cannot think or reason correctly, or act correctly as regards the external world. Moreover, the habit of correct observation tends to expand to things intellectual and moral, and elevates the character in higher modes than those on which it was first employed.”

—The author objects to the practice of unduly hastening the pupil; observing that “his early efforts will be inconceivably rude and incorrect, and his progress slow:—for he justly says,—“hand, eye, attention, observation, all have to be trained from the beginning, and a change must take place in his whole being before he can draw. Effectual training makes no show for a long time.” He contends, that mere copying is insufficient, that variety of subject is desirable, that the general faculties should be well disciplined, and permanent utility be never lost sight of. He suggests subsidiary exercises, such as drawing from memory and invention,—is of opinion that the growth of these important faculties may be encouraged by the practice of elementary drawing,—and lays down a number of sensible rules for the management of both children and adults, adapted to their several ages and characters.—For the details which this outline cannot convey, we must refer to the work itself: which is published in an accessible form, with copious illustrations and instructions.

### PICTURE CLEANING.

It was with great pleasure that I read your remarks on the late restoration of pictures in the National Gallery. The letters which have recently appeared elsewhere, and the observations made in Parliament on this matter, could have no other tendency than to create a reaction against all picture cleaning, and so cause popular collections to be left to the ordinary consequences of neglect,—which would be, to make their ultimate restoration a practical impossibility.

We cannot hide from ourselves the fact, that the majority of the national pictures are in a half-secured state. It is absurd to come to the conclusion that pictures do not need the appliances of Art to preserve them.—Will you permit me, very briefly, to adduce some further reasons for the state of that portion of the public who have not given adequate attention to this subject?



What the country wants is, recognized Professors of the art of restoring and preserving pictures. In this, as in other matters, public Examiners should decide who are fit persons to be charged with the works of genius. It does appear to me, that there is no living artist so great but that he would be honoured by the trust—and might feel pride in silent service rendered to the great masters of the old schools of painting. The duty of such Professors would obviously be, to remove from paintings, as far as might be safely practicable, all defects occasioned by accident or neglect,—and chiefly, to take heed that those pictures which have been spared ordinary decay and injury should not suffer from further want of proper attentions.

But, a prior question has to be settled;—viz. whether or not old pictures ought ever to be cleaned. "No," will exclaim a large section of connoisseurs who, like Hazlitt, dwell with raptures over the "decay of colour" and the "mouldering of material beauty." According to the canons of such critics, we are to believe that the great work of the Roman master at Hampton Court was vastly improved by a contemptuous lodgment in an out-house. Misfortune, which tempers the man, improves the picture. Mildew and rottenness are more precious than carmine and ultramarine. Far from sympathizing with this class of picture admirers, I see reason to believe that the slightest film on a really fine picture is an undoubted evil. Every good picture, no matter what the subject—whether figures or landscape, or both combined—suffers more or less in proportion to the extent of its obscuration. An idea of distance, and the appearances of remote objects, can be realized only by a skilful imitation of air tints. The most extreme distances are rendered with all the freshness and variety of nature by some modern painters, who rival and even excel the old landscape painters in the management of aerial effects. Truth is as much obscured in a picture by the corruption of these tints as it would be in linear perspective by the perversion of the lines.

The horn-like glazing of old varnishes and oils must needs defile all those refinements which constitute a fine landscape. Nor is the influence of the hateful incrustation less hurtful in other portions of a picture. Its pernicious presence is equally traceable on the boldest parts of near objects. The "purple tinge which the mountain assumes as it recedes, or approaches,—the grey moss upon the ruin,—the variegated greens and mellow browns of foliage,—in short, the colours in every part of nature—suffer alike from the baneful but much admired "varnish of time." Old varnish, or oil, or dirt, or the three united, on a delicately coloured picture, have a similar effect to a layer of stained glass.

Granting to the admirers of richly toned pictures that a warm glaze (such as discoloured varnish sometimes presents) may improve portions of the foregrounds in sunny pictures,—yet, the impropriety of preserving it, even in those portions, cannot be doubted, when we reflect that neither Claude, nor Cyp, nor any other painter, can be justly credited with the creation of beauties which result from chance. Such effects falsify the picture, and confound differences and characteristic distinctions between one master's style and another's. No painter would desire to be represented through this false medium. Chance never formed part of any great artist's calculation of effects. In historical pictures, the nicer points which are the evidence of mastery are alike involved. The various distinctions of colour in age and in sex, the "bloom of youth and the wan cheek of sickness," are not spared. The "golden" compound is permitted to reduce each and all into one level tone.

It was said of Franceschini, owing to the intensely religious feeling awakened by his pictures, that it would seem "as if he could have dipped his pencil in the hues of some serene and star-shining twilight." To what extent the "golden" glaze would improve pictures meriting this distinctive eulogy let connoisseurs decide.

The fact is, the great preponderance of brown colour which we observe on the pictures of Rembrandt, and the yellow or gold cast on the works of Titian, have resulted from causes in no way

originating with these painters. No master's productions are seen to worse advantage than Titian's,—and that, by reason of the very effects which are said to mellow and improve them. I will give a single example of a picture by one of Titian's scholars which furnished an instance of this time-mellowing in a striking way. We take the lawn robe of a Pope from the precise and delicate pencil of Bordone with a century's dirt upon it. It is no longer like lawn,—but like sackcloth. Its innumerable small folds and indentations—its chaste, lily-like whiteness and violet-hued shadowings—are all buried and lost. Pope Paul has no longer the fiery eye of the serpent. The emerald stone on the shrivelled finger is no longer lustrous. The clean elaborate grey beard is a fiction,—the truth of the carnations a matter of faith,—and the ample cape of crimson velvet has sunk into a coarse cloth of sober brown. I am, &c. HENRY MERRITT.  
Woburn Buildings, Euston Square.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—A positive move has been at length made in the City to carry out the plan, for filling the vacant niches in what is eccentrically called the Egyptian Hall in the Mansion House, which (our readers will remember) brought out the financial talents of Mr. Bunning, the City Architect, in such strong relief. As a beginning, six sculptors have been selected to execute statues;—the subjects to be severally derived from the events of British history or from the text of British poets. The figures, where they are males, are to be each, including the plinth, seven feet in height,—where female, six feet and a half. The artists chosen are, Messrs. Baily, Lough, MacDowall, Marshall, Foley, and Thripp;—and the sum paid for each statue is to be 700*l*. For all the contingencies of a work of the class intended this is an inadequate sum; but it is at least gratifying to see a step towards the cultivation of the Fine Arts taken in a city where they have been neglected so long, that over the first report in their favour, though cautious and niggardly enough, Mr. Bunning broke out into a song of irrepressible triumph—singing it very badly, as we thought. There are so many edifices and institutions in the city of London which may probably be startled into imitation by this sudden Art-peopling of the long deserted niches, that we think even eminent sculptors are acting in the interests of their art when they make some concession in this respect to meet the narrow resources of the corporation which has to keep up the great gilt coach and maintain the men in armour.

The Diorama of the Duke of Wellington's Campaigns at the "Gallery of Illustration" has received the timely additions of a prologue and an epilogue. The former, our readers know, takes the shape of a moonlight view of Walmer Castle, and an interior fac-simile of the chamber in which the great Duke died. The latter consists of three pictures—the Lying in State—the Funeral Car and Procession passing Charing Cross—and the Interior of St. Paul's. These are admirably executed, and will convey to many who were not present a clear idea of the leading incidents and features of the most impressive funeral ceremony which any man now living is likely ever to witness.

Our contemporary the *Daily News* announces that Mr. Alderman Salomans has given a presentation to the Blue Coat School to one of the orphan children of the late Mr. J. W. Allen, the artist; and that the board of management of the Governesses' Benevolent Institution have presented a free scholarship of Queen's College to one of the girls. "This noble use of patronage," says our contemporary, "is most satisfactory;—and the kind and perfectly disinterested pains taken in the matter by four gentlemen of eminence in literature and art is equally praiseworthy."

We must not omit to chronicle the death of Mr. Peter Rouw, the sculptor,—well known for his beautiful works in wax modelling. Mr. Rouw had attained to the patriarchal age of eighty-one.

A subscription has just been opened for the restoration of the Oratory of St. Flannan in the town of Killaloe,—built, it is thought, in the seventh century and long disused as a place of worship. It is in a sad state of decay. The chancel has quite

gone, and the north side of the nave is fast tumbling to destruction. Part of the stone roof also has fallen, and the remainder seems kept together only by the ivy and lichens with which it is covered. The estimated cost of the requisite repairs is only 60*l*.

Among the towns in which we hear the note of preparation for Wellington Memorials, are Leeds and Glasgow. At a meeting of influential parties held at the Court House in the former town, the Mayor in the chair,—it was determined, to raise a subscription for the erection of a bronze statue in honour of the memory of the illustrious Duke. The expense of the statue is not to exceed 2,000*l*.; and, should the subscription exceed that sum, the surplus is to be devoted to the general fund now raising in London. A committee, consisting of the Mayor and other influential gentlemen, was appointed to carry out the resolutions of the meeting.—At Glasgow, the sum contributed amounts to upwards of 2,000*l*.

Mr. Mogford has painted, and Mr. Samuel Cousins has engraved in mezzotint, a very striking portrait of Mr. Adams, the astronomer, of Cambridge,—which will be highly acceptable to all the lovers of science. It is published by Mr. Hogarth, of the Haymarket.

We must not omit to include in our obituary for the closing year the name of M. Huvé, who has died in Paris, at the age of sixty-seven years,—himself an eminent architect, and the son of an architect not undistinguished in his own walk and country. M. Huvé's great work is, the Church of the Madeleine in Paris. He built also the elegant Pavilion of Saint-Ouen, and the Salle of the *Théâtre Ventadour*. The deceased was followed to his grave by many of the literary and artistic celebrities still living in Paris. But how few were these compared with what we recollect in former years! It is only when some public ceremony like this calls together the remnant of intellectual France, that we see in all its force what a desert has been there made.

We learn by letters from the same capital that the collection of pictures belonging to the Duchess of Orleans is about to share the fate of the rest of the Orleans property in France, and be disposed of by auction. Among the specimens of modern Art which this collection includes, may be mentioned the well-known *Francesca da Rimini* of M. Ary Scheffer.

The Academy of Fine Arts in Paris has filled up the vacancy occasioned in its list by the death of M. Ramey, with the name of M. Seurre.

The American Court of Appeals has pronounced the lottery principle of distribution in the Art-Union lotteries of that country to be illegal and immoral,—and if these very questionable institutions are to exist at all in the republic, they must henceforth contrive to do so in a new shape and on better principles. The lottery—whether for castles in the air or for pictures on the easel—is affirmed to be contrary to the law and constitution of the United States, as well as an offence to public morality.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**HARMONIC UNION.**—The new society for its inaugural concert at Exeter Hall, yesterday week, had selected Sebastian Bach's Motett No. 6, and Mr. C. Horsley's "Joseph." The orchestra proves to be sufficient, and is well under the control of M. Benedict. The chorus is numerous and as regards its *soprani* good; the *alti* and tenors are less satisfactory. But amateur singers are apt to emit rash and strange sounds when they are uneasy, and some anxiety and excitement must naturally be allowed for in a first performance. Under these circumstances, it was not surprising that the Motett by Bach was attempted, rather than executed. Since the form of the work had to be damaged by the addition of an organ accompaniment to support the voices, it would have been wiser to postpone performance till such period as the chorus should be competent to execute the Motett as written. But, allowing for all drawbacks, it seemed to us clear that fine, and solid, and scientifically interesting as the composition is, it is not music calculated either to inspire or to assist the singers. The *Leipzig Cantor*, indeed, frequently wrote without paying any

peculiar attention to the words selected,—many movements by him recurring to us in which musical structure was obviously the thing present to him, and not the expression or illustration of verbal meaning. If this be characteristic, it settles the distance between Bach and Handel as vocal writers, and is worthy of a deeper examination than it has yet received.

Regarding Mr. C. Horsley's second Oratorio we wrote at some length (*ante*, p. 634) on its production at Liverpool. Its successful performance yesterday week developed for us few new points of excellence or of demerit. The *libretto*—though amended, unless we are mistaken, by the addition of a short scene—still remains to be the poorest of poor Oratorio-books. The music gains neither vigour, variety, nor individuality on a second hearing.—On the contrary, its performance with a metropolitan orchestra made it increasingly evident that Mr. C. Horsley has yet to learn the force, brightness, and contrast which are to be got by a judicious grouping of the instruments, —and which distinguish style from exercise in composition. We would fain hope that a third attempt may show that these deficiencies have been well considered, and are in progress of amendment. Should this not be accomplished, it will be impossible for Mr. C. Horsley to take rank among the composers, and he must be content to swell the list of imitative writers,—a list the length of which is known only to musical lexicographers. They are aware that such clever men as Worgan and Russell have been, and in their time have composed Oratorios,—of which not a note is to be heard. From so unsatisfactory an issue we would guard all who labour with good intentions:—and the present case is one where plain remonstrance is essentially more friendly than idle praise.

Regarding the *Prospectus* and *Programme* of the "Harmonic Union," we have a word or two to say in addition to the comments offered a fortnight ago. The promises of opportunity made to "all and sundry" English composers are impracticably magnificent,—inasmuch as they imply a ceaseless preparation of new music beyond the power of any society whatever:—and which, moreover, precludes the possibility of much executive improvement, since a body of musicians so largely placed at the service of experiment can hardly attain to a style or acquire finish. In another point, the invitation to native talent seems to us parsimonious beneath the dignity of a great society. The composer whose work is to be represented

"shall be required," says the *prospectus*, "to furnish the score and parts either in manuscript, print, or lithograph, in sufficient numbers for the band and chorus,—subject also to an understanding with respect to the publication of the work, by which the interests of the Harmonic Union, the composer and the publisher will be consolidated."

The composer, then, having done his best, is virtually obliged to contribute some twenty or thirty pounds (such is the cost of copying a set of parts) to the Society's current fund for the year. Really, it appears to us, that if his work be pronounced worth producing by the directing committee and conductor,—in place of its being performed merely because it has been finished,—the cost of its production should not be added to the outlay of invention, study, and time involved in its preparation.—The measure proposed is one which may open the door of the Harmonic Union not to the best score, but to the heaviest purse.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The third and last of *Miss Dolby's Soirées* was held on Tuesday evening.—Mr. Ella's *Musical Winter Evenings* are announced as about to recommence in January.

Since last week, we have heard that Dr. Spohr is the "celebrated German composer" who has been applied to by the directors of the *New Philharmonic Society* to conduct their concerts conjointly with Dr. Wyld.

Miss Janetia Aylward and Mr. Baumer were elected King's scholars at the Royal Academy of Music at the recent examination.

The *Gazette Musicale* of Paris states that M. Meyerbeer has been applied to by the Directors of the Dublin Exhibition for 1854 to compose an Ode for their opening day.—Who is "Miss Kennedy,

the celebrated English harpist"? From the same *Gazette*, we learn that she has arrived in the French capital with the purpose of playing in several concerts.

Meanwhile, regarding our own rival Italian Operas the oracles are singularly silent. Persons not oracular assert that the proposal to conduct *Her Majesty's Theatre* on the joint-stock principle has been responded to so coldly, that some other expedient must be resorted to if the theatre is to be open at all. Were the capital forthcoming, there are still to be met as difficulties want of singers and an exhausted repertory.—It is now said that Madame Viardot is not coming to Covent Garden Theatre next spring, though it is her intention to pass "the season" in London; and that, meanwhile, she may possibly sing at St. Petersburg, where the want of a competent *prima donna* is greatly felt. Private letters describe Madame Medori (put forward to replace Madame Grisi) as having a superb *soprano* voice, but no method as a singer nor power as an actress.—As we are in Russia, we may translate a line or two from a communication in which a friend discusses "native talent" in H.M. the Czar's empire. The *Athenæum* has announced, says he, "the success of the opera of M. Rubinstein ('Dmitri of the Don'). So far as I am a judge, it is eclectic music,—an imitation of Meyerbeer. The element of creation is totally wanting to it; but we have combination, arrangement, and, above all, pretension. The writer imagines himself a genius:—we shall see what posterity will say to it."

We have the following letter from Naples.—"The weather has been so unusually warm and fine that the Neapolitans have continued their *villeggiatura* to a much later period than usual. Yet, in spite of this abandonment of town, *San Carlo* has not been unmindful of the wants of those who remained. Several operas, and one new one, have been produced with tolerable success; and a *Prospectus* for the amusements of the coming season is before me. The autumn campaign began with 'I due Foscari' and 'Maria di Rohan,'—in the former of which Peruzzi was *prima donna*, Monari *baritone*, and Pancani our *tenor*. 'I Foscari' in their hands was far from being successful. 'Maria di Rohan' was given well by *prima donna* De Giulii Borsi, Mirate *tenor*, and Ferri *baritone*. De Giulii is decidedly and deservedly a favourite. Evidently educated in a perfect style, she has also the advantages of elegant manners and a graceful person. At the end of the *cavatina* she was vociferously applauded, and called forward. Nothing can be better than Mirate's style of singing; his voice is very pleasing, and the higher tones are altogether delicious, silvery, and insinuating. The audience loudly and universally applauded him. The *baritone* Ferri has a fair voice, and was encouraged and applauded at the end of his *cavatina*. The pieces destined now to be acted for some time are, the 'Alceste,' 'Il Giuramento,' and 'Diego Garias,'—which are to be supported by De Giulii Borsi, Mirate, and Ferri. Let me, however, give the *Prospectus* of our winter entertainments, ending with February 8, the last day of the *Carnival*. We are promised three new operas by Mercadante, Nicola di Giosa, and Staffa respectively,—besides 'balli' without number:—and three 'recite' are to be given every week. As *prime donne* we are to have De Giulii Borsi, Sofia Peruzzi, Borghi, Mammo and Teresa Tebaldi. Our *tenors* are, Mirate, Pancani, and Laudano; our *baritons* are to be Ferri and Monari,—and our *primo basso*, Arati. Later information assures us, that Carolina Alaimo, of well-known reputation, has been engaged as *prima donna* for the spring season, beginning from Lent. Her first appearance she is to make in the *Medea* of Pacini. Such are the proceedings, past, present, and to come, of the year's musical campaign at Naples.—If we take a run down to Palermo, we shall find that nothing goes down there but Pacini. This composer's 'Maria del Inghilterra' has now the possession of the Palermitan stage,—and he is under an engagement to produce a new opera for his admiring townsmen. The *prime donne* are, De Roissi and Marcolini; with whom are joined Ivanoff, Colini, and Bianchi.—In Rome, the season opened at the Argentinis with the

'Poliuto' of Donizetti; in which Malvezzi, Piccolomini, and Il Corsi won much applause.—The 'Giuramento' of Mercadante has been played at Genoa.—At Turin, the 'Corsaro' of Verdi had been introduced, and a successful season was promised: much attention had been paid to the decorations. Signora Vetturi Olivi was singing there as *prima donna*, and was a great favourite. Her voice is described as having much flexibility and strength, and her style of singing is said to be good.—The good people of Milan appear to be in high spirits with regard to their prospects this season. "In a few months," says a Correspondent, "our theatres will be restored to their ancient splendour. Never was there a more brilliant autumn season. At the *Canobbiana* the 'Mosè' of Rossini was announced for performance, with Foroni Conti and Bajetti as *prime donne*, Carrini as *tenor*, Everardi as *baritone*, and Nerini as *basso*. The *Teatro del Re* was to open with the company of Astolfi and Sadoschi.—The *Carnival* season at *La Scala* was to open with the 'Luigi V.' of Mazzucato."

On the above, we cannot resist offering a comment.—When we recollect what Signora Giulii Borsi was some half-dozen years ago,—then in her prime, but as regards voice and method the most violent and uninteresting singer that we had hitherto heard—when we recollect what was our London estimate of Mlle. Alaimo,—it is impossible to receive from the above account of triumphs, hopeful prospects, &c. anything but another confirmation of the rapid decay which has overtaken the *Dall'ora* of Italy, as stern moralists have been pleased to style her Opera.—Still, knowing the riches of the land, and its power of surprising by spontaneous production, we will not utterly despair.—A friend newly arrived from Lombardy declares that the revival of 'Mosè' at Milan was so successful as almost to amount to a sign of re-action in favour of Rossini; and that every delicate and finished phrase in the singing of the *tenor* was seized and applauded with enthusiasm.—The *Gazette Musicale* of Naples reports on the production at *San Carlo* of 'Guido Colmar,' a tragic opera, by *Maestro* di Giosa, not in the above list,—which is said to be good;—and on 'Baldassar,' an opera, by *Maestro* Mabbellini, just produced at Florence,—also, with success. In this opera, the singing of Signor Festa, a Neapolitan *basso*, is expressly commended.—The new opera by *Maestro* Mercadante, announced in our Correspondent's epistle, is to bear the title of 'Statira.'

M. Fayolle, who is known to those conversant with the French musical circles as the translator of Gerber's 'Dictionary of Musicians,' the author of some notices of the great violinists, and the composer of certain unrepresented operas,—died the other day, aged seventy-eight years.

There is at this moment an odd theatrical revival in Silesia, which deserves a word of record among the social facts of this very extraordinary year. It would appear, that the Jesuit missions lately established in that part of Prussia have given great offence to the Protestant inhabitants,—and, in the absence of any other means of making a popular demonstration against an institution suffered by the Government of Berlin, they are flocking in thousands to Breslau to attend the theatre, where the manager has produced a drama with the magic title of 'Luther.' Peasants come in from leagues round to applaud the actors. "Sometimes," says our informant, the *Daily News*, "they drive up in a procession of upwards of a hundred carts, and take the whole pit to themselves. On a late occasion they filled the whole tier of dress-boxes, in their frieze coats and broad-brimmed hats."—How would the old Reformer stare could he return to earth and find how singularly his sturdy and industrious followers of Silesia are now maintaining the good old cause!—Luther himself fought the Devil with his inkstand,—a knock-down weapon, whether the old story read as fact or as allegory,—but it probably never occurred to him that the quarrel would one day come to an issue at the footlights.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W.—W. B. B.—W. S.—J. T. N. Jan.—P. L.—H. M.—received.

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**EXTENSION OF LIMITS OF RESIDENCE.**—The Assured may reside in most parts of the world, without extra charge, and in all parts, by payment of a small extra premium.

**MUTUAL SYSTEM, WITHOUT THE RISK OF FRATERNITY.**

The small share of Profit divisible in future among the Shareholders being now provided for, without intrenching on the amount made by the regular business, the Assured will hereafter derive all the benefits obtainable from a Mutual Office, with, at the same time, complete freedom from liability, secured by means of an ample Proprietary Capital,—thus combining in the same office all the advantages of both systems.

**ARTICIPATION OF PROFITS.**—Persons who participate in the Profits in proportion to the number and amount of the Premiums paid between every division, so that if only one year's Premium be received prior to the Books being closed for any division, the Policyholder will obtain his share of the Profit.

**LOANS.**—Loans are advanced on Policies which have been effected five years and upwards, to the extent of nine-tenths of their value.

**BONUSES—FIVE BONUSES** have been declared; at the last, in January, 1852, the sum of 120,132 was added to the 9,300 producing a Bonus varying with the different ages from 54 to 55 per Cent. on the Premiums paid during the five years.

**PROFITS IN BONUSES.**—Policies which have subsisted for five years, producing a Bonus varying with the different ages from 54 to 55 per Cent. on the Premiums paid during the five years.

**NON-PARTICIPATING.**—Assurances may be effected for a fixed Sum at considerably reduced rates, and the Premiums for Policies are lower than at most other Safe Offices.

**PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.**—Claims paid thirty days after proof of death, and all Policies are *indisputable* except in cases of fraud.

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**POLICIES** are granted on the lives of persons in any station, and of every age, and for any sum on one life from 50, to 100,000, and upwards, and may be paid yearly, or ready, or quarterly, but if a payment be omitted from any cause, the Policy can be revived within fourteen months.

**Accounts and Balance Sheets** are at all times open to the inspection of the Assured, or of Persons desirous to assure.

A copy of the last Report, with a Prospectus and Forms of Proposal, can be obtained of any of the Society's Agents, or will be forwarded free by addressing a line to  
GEORGE H. PINCKARD, Resident Secretary,  
50, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

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demand for the CHUNK and VESTA STOVES (separately) has been so great, that the number of stoves having been sold last season (in all upwards of 14,500) through the patronage of families who had experience of their pre-eminently useful qualities, WILLIAM S. BURTON has renewed confidence in recommending them for their cleanliness, economy, and safety.

During the last twelve years they have been found sources of great comfort in the bedroom of the invalid, affording a uniform temperature throughout the day and night, with one supply of fuel, without attention. Particulars sent postage free. (Chunks, 30s. to 50s.; Vests, from 35s.; Stoves for warehouses, &c., from 10s. each.)

JOHN S. BURTON, per agent, has TEN LARGE SHOW-ROOMS (all communicating), exclusive of the Shop, devoted solely to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY, Brass, and Copper, Gun Cutlery, Silver, Plated and Jewelled Ware, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, &c. arranged and classified that Purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

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**ROYAL SILK TAPESTRY HANGINGS,** for every purpose of interior Wall Decorations where Paper Hangings are usually resorted to. Noblemen, gentlemen, and the Public supplied through the medium of their Architects, Decorators, or Upholsterers.—**E. T. ARCHER,** Inventor and Manufacturer, 1, Oxford-street.

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46-inch do., 102c; 47-inch do., 104c; 48-inch do., 106c; 49-inch do., 108c; 50-inch do., 110c; 51-inch do., 112c; 52-inch do., 114c; 53-inch do., 116c; 54-inch do., 118c; 55-inch do., 120c; 56-inch do., 122c; 57-inch do., 124c; 58-inch do., 126c; 59-inch do., 128c; 60-inch do., 130c; 61-inch do., 132c; 62-inch do., 134c; 63-inch do., 136c; 64-inch do., 138c; 65-inch do., 140c; 66-inch do., 142c; 67-inch do., 144c; 68-inch do., 146c; 69-inch do., 148c; 70-inch do., 150c; 71-inch do., 152c; 72-inch do., 154c; 73-inch do., 156c; 74-inch do., 158c; 75-inch do., 160c; 76-inch do., 162c; 77-inch do., 164c; 78-inch do., 166c; 79-inch do., 168c; 80-inch do., 170c; 81-inch do., 172c; 82-inch do., 174c; 83-inch do., 176c; 84-inch do., 178c; 85-inch do., 180c; 86-inch do., 182c; 87-inch do., 184c; 88-inch do., 186c; 89-inch do., 188c; 90-inch do., 190c; 91-inch do., 192c; 92-inch do., 194c; 93-inch do., 196c; 94-inch do., 198c; 95-inch do., 200c; 96-inch do., 202c; 97-inch do., 204c; 98-inch do., 206c; 99-inch do., 208c; 100-inch do., 210c; 101-inch do., 212c; 102-inch do., 214c; 103-inch do., 216c; 104-inch do., 218c; 105-inch do., 220c; 106-inch do., 222c; 107-inch do., 224c; 108-inch do., 226c; 109-inch do., 228c; 110-inch do., 230c; 111-inch do., 232c; 112-inch do., 234c; 113-inch do., 236c; 114-inch do., 238c; 115-inch do., 240c; 116-inch do., 242c; 117-inch do., 244c; 118-inch do., 246c; 119-inch do., 248c; 120-inch do., 250c; 121-inch do., 252c; 122-inch do., 254c; 123-inch do., 256c; 124-inch do., 258c; 125-inch do., 260c; 126-inch do., 262c; 127-inch do., 264c; 128-inch do., 266c; 129-inch do., 268c; 130-inch do., 270c; 131-inch do., 272c; 132-inch do., 274c; 133-inch do., 276c; 134-inch do., 278c; 135-inch do., 280c; 136-inch do., 282c; 137-inch do., 284c; 138-inch do., 286c; 139-inch do., 288c; 140-inch do., 290c; 141-inch do., 292c; 142-inch do., 294c; 143-inch do., 296c; 144-inch do., 298c; 145-inch do., 300c; 146-inch do., 302c; 147-inch do., 304c; 148-inch do., 306c; 149-inch do., 308c; 150-inch do., 310c; 151-inch do., 312c; 152-inch do., 314c; 153-inch do., 316c; 154-inch do., 318c; 155-inch do., 320c; 156-inch do., 322c; 157-inch do., 324c; 158-inch do., 326c; 159-inch do., 328c; 160-inch do., 330c; 161-inch do., 332c; 162-inch do., 334c; 163-inch do., 336c; 164-inch do., 338c; 165-inch do., 340c; 166-inch do., 342c; 167-inch do., 344c; 168-inch do., 346c; 169-inch do., 348c; 170-inch do., 350c; 171-inch do., 352c; 172-inch do., 354c; 173-inch do., 356c; 174-inch do., 358c; 175-inch do., 360c; 176-inch do., 362c; 177-inch do., 364c; 178-inch do., 366c; 179-inch do., 368c; 180-inch do., 370c; 181-inch do., 372c; 182-inch do., 374c; 183-inch do., 376c; 184-inch do., 378c; 185-inch do., 380c; 186-inch do., 382c; 187-inch do., 384c; 188-inch do., 386c; 189-inch do., 388c; 190-inch do., 390c; 191-inch do., 392c; 192-inch do., 394c; 193-inch do., 396c; 194-inch do., 398c; 195-inch do., 400c; 196-inch do., 402c; 197-inch do., 404c; 198-inch do., 406c; 199-inch do., 408c; 200-inch do., 410c; 201-inch do., 412c; 202-inch do., 414c; 203-inch do., 416c; 204-inch do., 418c; 205-inch do., 420c; 206-inch do., 422c; 207-inch do., 424c; 208-inch do., 426c; 209-inch do., 428c; 210-inch do., 430c; 211-inch do., 432c; 212-inch do., 434c; 213-inch do., 436c; 214-inch do., 438c; 215-inch do., 440c; 216-inch do., 442c; 217-inch do., 444c; 218-inch do., 446c; 219-inch do., 448c; 220-inch do., 450c; 221-inch do., 452c; 222-inch do., 454c; 223-inch do., 456c; 224-inch do., 458c; 225-inch do., 460c; 226-inch do., 462c; 227-inch do., 464c; 228-inch do., 466c; 229-inch do., 468c; 230-inch do., 470c; 231-inch do., 472c; 232-inch do., 474c; 233-inch do., 476c; 234-inch do., 478c; 235-inch do., 480c; 236-inch do., 482c; 237-inch do., 484c; 238-inch do., 486c; 239-inch do., 488c; 240-inch do., 490c; 241-inch do., 492c; 242-inch do., 494c; 243-inch do., 496c; 244-inch do., 498c; 245-inch do., 500c; 246-inch do., 502c; 247-inch do., 504c; 248-inch do., 506c; 249-inch do., 508c; 250-inch do., 510c; 251-inch do., 512c; 252-inch do., 514c; 253-inch do., 516c; 254-inch do., 518c; 255-inch do., 520c; 256-inch do., 522c; 257-inch do., 524c; 258-inch do., 526c; 259-inch do., 528c; 260-inch do., 530c; 261-inch do., 532c; 262-inch do., 534c; 263-inch do., 536c; 264-inch do., 538c; 265-inch do., 540c; 266-inch do., 542c; 267-inch do., 544c; 268-inch do., 546c; 269-inch do., 548c; 270-inch do., 550c; 271-inch do., 552c; 272-inch do., 554c; 273-inch do., 556c; 274-inch do., 558c; 275-inch do., 560c; 276-inch do., 562c; 277-inch do., 564c; 278-inch do., 566c; 279-inch do., 568c; 280-inch do., 570c; 281-inch do., 572c; 282-inch do., 574c; 283-inch do., 576c; 284-inch do., 578c; 285-inch do., 580c; 286-inch do., 582c; 287-inch do., 584c; 288-inch do., 586c; 289-inch do., 588c; 290-inch do., 590c; 291-inch do., 592c; 292-inch do., 594c; 293-inch do., 596c; 294-inch do., 598c; 295-inch do., 600c; 296-inch do., 602c; 297-inch do., 604c; 298-inch do., 606c; 299-inch do., 608c; 300-inch do., 610c; 301-inch do., 612c; 302-inch do., 614c; 303-inch do., 616c; 304-inch do., 618c; 305-inch do., 620c; 306-inch do., 622c; 307-inch do., 624c; 308-inch do., 626c; 309-inch do., 628c; 310-inch do., 630c; 311-inch do., 632c; 312-inch do., 634c; 313-inch do., 636c; 314-inch do., 638c; 315-inch do., 640c; 316-inch do., 642c; 317-inch do., 644c; 318-inch do., 646c; 319-inch do., 648c; 320-inch do., 650c; 321-inch do., 652c; 322-inch do., 654c; 323-inch do., 656c; 324-inch

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In every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most recherche patterns. Dish Covers, 6s. the set of six; Brick Tin, 11s. 6d. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 90s. to 10s. the set; Britannia Metal, with or without silver-plated handles, 10s. to 10s. the set; Sheffield plated, 18s. to 16s. 10s. the set; Brick Tin Hot Water Dishes, with wells for gravy, 11s. to 25s.; Britannia Metal, 32s. to 10s. the set.

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for all communicating, exclusive of the shop, devoted solely to the sale of **GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY** (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated and Japanese Wares, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, so arranged and so classified that purchasers can select the most suitable for their own requirements.

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 construction is simplicity of management, and the extreme economy  
 of a brilliant and unflashing light are generally acknowledged.

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Single or double wicks .....	7½d. per pound.
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English's Patent Camphine, in sealed cans, 4s. 8d. per gallon.

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in the Kingdom is WILLIAM S. BURTON'S. He has selected to his Show-rooms TWO VERY LARGE ONES, which are devoted to the EXCLUSIVE SHOW of Iron and Brass Bedsteads, and Children's Cots (with appropriate Bedding and Mattresses), and a large variety of Bedsteads in plain and carved designs, of prices proportionate with those that have tended to make this establishment the most distinguished in this country. Common Iron Bedsteads, from 15s. 6d.; Portable Folding Bedsteads, from 25s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with dovetail joints and spring bedding, from 19s. 6d.; and Cots, from 25s. each. Hand-made Iron and Brass Bedsteads, in great variety.

**THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE for SILVER.**  
**T**he REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced 20 years ago  
 by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when plated by the patent process of  
 Messrs. Elkington & Co., is beyond all comparison the very best  
 article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either  
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	Fiddle	Brunswick	King's
	Pattern.	Pattern.	Pattern.
Ten Spoons, per dozen .....	18s.	23s.	26s.
Sweet Forks ".....	30s.	42s.	58s.
" ".....	30s.	42s.	58s.
Table Forks ".....	40s.	55s.	75s.
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Ten and Coffee Sets, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process.  
CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

	Fiddle.	Thred.	King's
Dish Spoons and Forks, full size, per doz.	13s.	25s.	30s.
Small ditto and ditto .....	10s.	21s.	25s.
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Four Guineas each—250, Oxford Street, near Hyde Park.

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Wine Glasses, Water Jugs, Goblets, and all kinds of Table Glass  
at exceedingly moderate prices. Crystal glass Drawing-room Chan-  
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**W**ATHERSTON & BROGDEN beg to CAUTION the Public against the **ELECTRO GOLD CHAINS** and **POLISHED ZINC GOLD**, so extensively put forth in the present day, and to call attention to the genuine **Gold Chains** made from their own ingots, and sold by troy weight at its bullion, or realizable value, with the workmanship at wholesale manufacturer's prices. The gold guaranteed, and repurchased at the price charged, the workmanship according to the simplicity or intricacy of the pattern.

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The Prince of Wales's Pattern, shaped and engraved.	The Louis-Quatorze Pattern, richly chased.
Strong Silver Tea-pot, £12 10 0	Strong Silver Tea-pot, £15 10 0
Ditto Sugar-Basin, gilt 7 0	Ditto Sugar-Basin, gilt 8 5 0
Ditto Cream Ewer, gilt 4 15 0	Ditto Cream Ewer, gilt 5 15 0
Ditto Coffee Pot, 15 0 0	Ditto Coffee Pot, 17 10 0

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with drawers, 10s. 10s.; and a smaller size, 10s. 10s.;  
drawers, long drawer, and Mordan's lock, 6s. 6s. Tasteful Work-  
boxes. Elegantly inlaid Comorand wood Crochet and Knitting  
Boxes, 10s. 10s.; a smaller size, 10s. 10s.; a smaller size, 10s. 10s.;  
mahogany Multum-in-parvo Dressing-case, and to his Gentlemen's  
solid mahogany mahogany Dressing-case, with the carved-out cir-  
cular end, and morticed partitions, 10s. 10s.; a smaller size, 10s. 10s.;  
writing cases, 1s. 6d. to 10s. 10s.; and the Tourist's Companion, or  
Writing Dressing-case, in Russian leather, with J. Rodgers's razors  
and penknife, 1s. 6d. a Shoe-Kniver is devoted to a large assem-  
bly of the most useful and elegant articles, 10s. 10s.; a smaller size,  
Albion, Tea-caddie, Card-trays, Souvenir Tablets, Writing-desks,  
Work-boxes, Glove, Knitting, and Crochet Boxes; a pleasing  
variety of patterns, inlaid with gold, silver, and mother-of-pearl,  
morocco Church Services, with gilt rims and clasps, and Polyglot  
Bibles, for acceptable presents, as also the Porte-monnaies, in  
solid silver, and a variety of other articles, 10s. 10s.; a smaller size,  
fitted for ladies' work, one pattern with remarkable initials, at  
2s. 6d.; also, the Ladies' Rosewood, the Scotch Wood Articles, and  
Joseph Rodgers & Sons' Razors, Penknives, Pen Machines, Scissors,

**NEW FRUITS—JUST LANDED.**  
New Muscatels, 4lb. boxes, 2s. each; 6lb. boxes, fine to  
finest, 3s. 9d. to 6s. each.

The finest Elese Figs, large boxes, 3s. and 3s. 3d. each.  
Imperial Plums, in very handsome boxes, 1s. 6d. to 20s. each.  
Valencia and Sultan's Raisins, Patras and Zante Currants, at  
market prices.  
A general Price Current sent post free on application to  
PHILLIPS & COMPANY, Tea and Colonial Merchants, 8, King  
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Congou Tea, 3s. to 3s. 8d.; best Imperial Souchong Tea, 4s.; best  
Moyune Gunpowder, 5s.  
Prime Coffee, 1s.; the best Coffee, 1s. 4d. per lb.

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Two Horses at the Expense of One, being Hints about Feeding.  
With Tables of Quantities for Weekly Use, which may be a  
Saving of Ten to Twenty Pounds yearly. Also, Hints about  
Feeding Horses and other Cattle solely on Grass, Whins, or Furze,  
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**DO YOU BRUISE YOUR OATS YET?**  
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